

# Isaiah 26:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.

## Analysis

**Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee** / **לֹךְ עַמִּי בָּא בְּחִזְקִיבָּן וְסַגְּרֵךְ דְּלַתְּךָ בְּעָדָךָ**—The tender address **עַמִּי** (ammi, "my people") recalls Hosea 2:23's covenant restoration. **חִדְרָה** (cheder, "inner chamber, room") suggests intimate refuge, private sanctuary. This echoes the Passover (Exodus 12:22-23) where Israelites sheltered indoors while judgment passed over. It also anticipates Jesus's instruction for private prayer (Matthew 6:6).

**Hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast** / **חַבֵּי כְּמַעַט־קָגָע עַד־עִבָּר זָעָם**—The verb **חַבֵּא** (chava, "to hide, conceal") indicates protective concealment, not fearful cowering. **קָגָע** (khim'at-rega, "a little moment") relativizes suffering's duration compared to eternity. **זָעָם** (za'am, "indignation, wrath") describes God's judicial anger against sin. Believers are hidden FROM judgment, not IN judgment—Christ bore God's wrath so we find refuge in Him.

## Historical Context

This verse bridges Isaiah 26's resurrection hope (v. 19) with chapter 27's ultimate judgment and restoration. It provided comfort during Babylonian exile: though judgment falls on the earth, God's people find refuge in Him. The 'little moment' perspective helps endure suffering (2 Corinthians 4:17). The New Testament

develops this theme: believers are hidden in Christ (Colossians 3:3), sealed until redemption (Ephesians 4:30), kept from the hour of trial (Revelation 3:10). Whether this means pre-tribulation rapture or divine preservation through tribulation remains debated, but the core promise stands—God protects His people.

## Related Passages

**Colossians 1:16** – All things created through Christ

## Genesis 1:1 – Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

1. What does it mean to 'enter into thy chambers' and find refuge in God during times of judgment and upheaval?
2. How does viewing suffering as 'a little moment' compared to eternity provide perspective during long trials?
3. In what ways does Christ serve as our 'inner chamber' where we hide from God's wrath against sin?

## Interlinear Text

בג'ר ב דלטיך וסיג ר בחדך יג ב א עמי ל ג

H1980      **my people**      **enter**      **thou into thy chambers**      **and shut**      **thy doors**      H1157

לִנְבֹּר עַד כָּמָעַט רַגְעָה חַבֵּר  
about thee hide thyself as it were for a little moment H5704 be overpast

:בָּעֵם

until the indignation

H2195

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 30:5** (Parallel theme): For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

**Psalms 27:5** (Parallel theme): For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

**Matthew 6:6** (Parallel theme): But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

**Psalms 91:4** (Parallel theme): He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

**Proverbs 18:10** (Parallel theme): The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

**Psalms 17:8** (Parallel theme): Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

**2 Corinthians 4:17** (Parallel theme): For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

**Isaiah 10:25** (Parallel theme): For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction.

**Psalms 32:7** (Parallel theme): Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

**Isaiah 51:4** (Parallel theme): Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people.