

The Power of the Tornado

by Wayne Goff

Unfortunately, many, many lives were lost this past week in Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia as a result of the horrific tornadoes that swept through the south and southeast. There were plenty of advance warnings in most cases, but the people had nowhere to go. There are few basements or storm shelters in the south, and when large tornadoes come through the people are sitting ducks.

My brother, David, and his family found shelter in his new “safe room” which was built behind his new house for just such a purpose. When the tornado hit Vilonia, Arkansas last Monday, it was only a few miles from his house. On Tuesday, a funnel cloud passed over his house and once again they found shelter in that “safe room.” Perhaps others in the south will now reconsider building such rooms or storm shelters. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who lost loved ones.

God often displays His power in terms of the *tornado, or whirlwind*.

- ✓ Elijah was taken up into heaven in a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:1-22).
- ✓ God appeared to Job in a whirlwind when He gave Job the opportunity to argue his case (Job 38:1; 40:6).
- ✓ Those who reject God’s wisdom for their own will one day be rejected by God when their trouble comes as a whirlwind, Prov. 1:27.
- ✓ The **spiritual application** is seen in Prov. 10:25 - “*When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked is no more, but the righteous has an everlasting foundation.*” See also Isaiah 17:13; 40:24; 41:16; 66:15.
- ✓ God displayed His greatness in a whirlwind to Ezekiel (ch. 1).
- ✓ The wicked “*sow the wind, and reap the whirlwind*” (Hosea 8:7) showing the futility of their lives.

Only in Jesus Christ can we find peace and safety in our time of need. Seek Him *early* while there is time and opportunity. If you wait until the day of calamity, then it will be too late!

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