

Psalm 27

V: 1 “*The Lord is my Light*” - He is the only light in this dark world.

- This is actually the first time in scripture that light is used as a Metaphor for God.

John 1:4 “In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.”

John 8:12 “... I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

- Again, David is pointing to the Lord, not to himself.

“... *and my salvation*; ...” The Lord is the only One who can save me.

Isaiah 43:11 “I, even I, am the Lord; and beside Me there is no saviour.”

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

- Who shall I fear? Of whom shall I be afraid? Rhetorical questions which assume the answer that we will fear no one.

V: 2-3 This ties back into the previous Psalm where David was asking God to protect him from his enemies, when Absalom was trying to kill him.

- ²His enemies came upon him, past tense, they stumbled and fell - past tense. God has answered his prayers.
- Because of that history, that experience where God has proven Himself faithful in the past, he now applies that to his present and future battles.
- ³When an army comes against him, when the war comes to me - my heart shall not fear, I will be confident.

Romans 8:31 “... If God be for us, who can be against us?”

V: 4 As David is fleeing Jerusalem, he’s not just leaving Jerusalem, or his house behind, he’s separated from the Tabernacle. No doubt he liked to spend a lot of time there, worshipping God, seeking His face, talking, asking God questions.

- David talks about the beauty of the courts of the Lord, like its a favorite, and a familiar place to him.

Psalm 84:2 “My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.”

- David simply wants to be where God is, he wants to draw closer.

James 4:8 “Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.”

V: 5 God will hide him in the time of trouble:

Psalm 91:1-2 “¹He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. ²I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.”

- His pavilion is His court, that protected place of being in His presence, it's a place of privilege, the secret place of His tabernacle, His dwelling place.
- Ultimately being set up upon a rock - solid ground, a place of elevation, and safety.

Psalm 61:2 “From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.”

V: 6 Describing victory over his enemies, and the praises he will sing giving God the glory for those victories.

V: 7-10 Hear my cry O Lord, have mercy upon me, speak to me.

- ⁸When God commanded him to seek his face, he was immediately obedient and purposed to do just exactly what the Lord commanded.

Proverbs 8:17 “I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find me.”

- David is demonstrating that willingness to be obedient to God's Word, if God already knows that you're not really willing to be obedient, then He probably won't speak or ask much.

1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.”

- ⁹David is speaking from that perspective, Lord don't set me aside, use me, speak to me.

- ¹⁰By this time David's parents were probably already dead, this is more of a general proverb - "even if my parents were to forsake me, the Lord is there for me."
- Because the Lord is faithful!

Isaiah 49:15-16 "¹⁵Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. ¹⁶Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands;..."

V: 11 Teach me Thy way, or show me Thy way, lead me in a plain path - when you're fleeing from your enemies you don't want it to be over difficult terrain; a plain or smooth path is preferred because you can move faster, cover more territory.

V: 12 When David was fleeing from Absalom there were those who were saying that he was getting what he deserved because he had mistreated the descendants of Saul. That was a lie, false witnesses spreading lies.

- Absalom had accused his father of neglecting his kingly duties; Absalom sat in the gate of the city, beckoning people to come to him for judgment, intimating or saying outright that the king was too busy, but that Absalom cared for the people, implying that David didn't. Absalom was stealing the hearts of the people with false accusations.

"¹²... false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breath out cruelty."

- Absalom was both slandering his father, and trying to kill him as he sought to usurp the kingdom.

V: 13 The first three words of this verse are in italics, meaning they were added by the translators for clarification of the thought, or helping the sentence to make sense in English.

"If I didn't have faith, I would have given up..."

V: 14 Based on all of that, his personal experience: "Wait on the Lord, don't be afraid, He'll strengthen you, just wait."

Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

- As we study through the Word together, we are waiting on the Lord.
- Faith and patience seem to go hand in hand.

Isaiah 28:16 “Therefore thus saith the Lord God, behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.”

“I know not what the future holds, but I know who holds the future.”

- If Jesus is your Savior and Lord, then the future is yours, and you have nothing to fear.

Psalm 28

V: 1-2 Lord, don't be silent, hear my prayer.

- David doesn't just say that the Lord is a rock, he declares that the Lord is **his rock!** (personal)
- If you're silent, if you don't hear me, then I'm no different than those that go to the pit, hell. Please hear me.
- Supplications (prayers), crying out unto God, lifting up his hands toward thy Temple, towards the Holy of Holies - the presence of God.

1 Timothy 2:8 “I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.”

- Many equate the lifting up of the hands as a gesture of surrender, which in many ways it is; but it is also used as we see it here as a gesture of supplication - looking to receive something from God, an act of humility before Him.
- It's also an act of worship before God:

Psalm 63:4 “Thus will I bless Thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.”

V: 3-5 Don't count me among the wicked, give them what they deserve.

- Because they don't regard or believe the works of the Lord = no faith = He will destroy them.

Hebrews 11:6 “Without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

- David prayed fervently against his enemies; we need to pray just as hard against ours!

- “*Lord, bind the hand of the enemy*” - “*Lord, keep me from sin*” - “*Lord help me to walk in the Spirit!*”

V: 6 Blessed be the Lord because he has heard me, my prayers are answered!

V: 7-8 Praise the Lord. The Lord is my strength and my shield / protection.

- What a wonderful gift God has given us, the ability to worship Him, to express our love to Him through song.

Hebrews 13:15 “By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.”

Ephesians 5:19 “Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;”

“... *He is the saving strength of His anointed.*” He has the power to save!

V: 9 Petition: save thy people, bless your inheritance, and feed them, provide for them. That is what a good shepherd does. (And we know Jesus is the Good Shepherd.)

Psalm 23:2 “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.”

- But the last part: “... *and lift them up for ever.*” That is speaking of eternity, and that is something that only our Great Shepherd can do!
- David’s life is in jeopardy, he’s not sure what the future holds for him personally, but here we see him as a type of the Shepherd King to come in that he is praying for the flock, Lord take care of them.

Isaiah 40:11 “He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.”

Psalm 29

V: 1-2 We are exhorted to worship the Lord and to give Him glory!

- Giving the Lord the glory that is so richly due His name, which in itself is holy!
- It is good to remind ourselves of the greatness of our God, because when we see Him in His majesty - our problems become very small in comparison.
- Worshipping the Lord in the “*beauty of holiness*” equates to what Jesus said:

John 4:24 “God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.”

V: 3-9 “*The voice of the Lord*” is mentioned or described 7 times.

“*The voice of the Lord...*”

³Is upon the waters. - ⁴Is powerful. - ⁴Is full of majesty. - ⁵Breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. - ⁶Divideth the flames of fire.

- This particular Psalm was read in the Temple every year on the day of Pentecost; the same day that the Holy Spirit fell upon the believers just after Jesus ascended into heaven.
- As the believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit:

Acts 2:3-4 “³And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

⁷Shaketh the wilderness. - ⁸Maketh the hinds / deer to calve.

The voice of the Lord:

Hebrews 4:12 “For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

V: 10-11 The Lord is on top of things, He is the King forever.

- He is the One who gives strength to His people; He shall bless His people with peace, because He's the prince of it!

John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

- Jesus offers us an opportunity to make peace with Him, which is through surrender.
- Many have borne the weight of our sin for far too long, struggling through life, man made religions and philosophies that just don't cut it.

Jesus said:

Matthew 11:28-30 “²⁸Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”