"The Power of Being Focused on One Thing"

April 6, 2025

The Big Idea: Psalm 27 is a song from the heart of man whose life is full of trouble, danger and unexpected turns in life. David teaches us that when we desire God more than anything or anyone else, He will transform our lives and give us strength and grace to endure the trouble.

Psalm 27 (ESV)

1 *The LORD is my light and my salvation;*
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

✓ When you center your life on God, you begin to get glimpses of His nature. (v. 1)
- light → God's holiness, truth and life; all that is good
- salvation → being delivered from death to life
- stronghold → a fortified place of safety

2 *When evildoers assail me*
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.

✓ Trouble is an inevitable part of life for the follower of God. (vv. 2, 5-6)

3 *Though an army encamp against me,*
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.
4 *One thing have I asked of the LORD,*
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.

✓ God alone is worthy of your singular focus, worship, and desire. (v. 4)

5 *For he will hide me in his shelter*
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.
6 *And now my head shall be lifted up*
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

✓ When a person desires the Lord above all else, you'll see:
- courage and confidence in the Lord (v. 5)
- joy in sacrifice and praise (v. 6)
- a habit of worship (v. 6)

7 *Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;*
be gracious to me and answer me!
8 *You have said, "Seek my face."*
My heart says to you,
"Your face, LORD, do I seek."

✓ God will put desire for Him in your heart and He will increase your desire to know Him (v. 8)

9 *Hide not your face from me.*
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!
10 *For my father and my mother have forsaken me,*
but the LORD will take me in.

11 *Teach me your way, O LORD,*
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

✓ You can know and walk in God's path. (v. 11)

12 *Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;*
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.
13 *I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD*
in the land of the living!

✓ You can see the goodness of the Lord every day. (v. 13)

14 *Wait for the LORD;*
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

✓ You know what to do and what to tell others to do when we face desperate circumstances: (v. 14)
- Wait for the Lord – because God's timing is impeccable.
- Be strong – because the Lord fights for you.
- Have courage – because God can be trusted.
- Keep waiting for the Lord – because that is how we show our faith is in Him.