

THE BOOK OF PSALMS
Psalm 27 - Light And Salvation In Dark Times
December 9, 2020

OBJECTIVES IN STUDYING THIS PSALM

- 1) To glean David's source of strength and courage in difficult times
- 2) To learn where to turn when persecuted by enemies or forsaken by family

SUMMARY: This psalm is ascribed to David, evidently written in a time of danger (12). It may have been prompted by the help provided by Ahimelech the priest, and the opposition of Doeg the Edomite, who saw David at the tabernacle and later reported him to Saul (cf. **1Sa 21:1-10; 22:9**). This was also a time when David sought protection for his parents (cf. **1Sam 22:3**) which may have left David feeling abandoned (10).

As always, David found the LORD to be his "**Light And Salvation In Dark Times**". The first part of the psalm expresses **his confident trust** in the LORD for blessings received in the past, and his desire to dwell in the house of the LORD who will protect him in the future (1-6). In the second part David offers **an anxious plea** for God's mercy and deliverance from his enemies (7-12). It ends with a confession that he would have lost heart without faith in God's goodness, and an exhortation to wait on the Lord for strength and courage of heart (13-14).

OUTLINE

I. CONFIDENT TRUST IN TIME OF DANGER (27:1-6)

A. CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD (1-3)

1. Of whom shall David be afraid?
 - a. When the LORD is his light and salvation
 - b. When the LORD is the strength of his life
2. The LORD's help in the past
 - a. When the wicked, his enemies and foes came against him
 - b. They stumbled and fell
3. The LORD's help in the future
 - a. Though encamped by an army in time of war
 - b. His heart will not fear, it remains confident in the LORD

B. COMMUNION WITH GOD (4-6)

1. The one thing he desires of the LORD
 - a. To dwell in His house all his life
 - b. To behold His beauty, and inquire in His temple
2. The reason for David's fervent desire
 - a. In time of trouble the LORD will hide him

- 1) In His pavilion
- 2) In the secret place of His tabernacle
- b. The LORD will set him high upon a rock
3. His response to being lifted high above his enemies
 - a. To offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle
 - b. To sing praises to the LORD

II. ANXIOUS PRAYER IN TIME OF DANGER (27:7-12)

A. PLEA FOR MERCY (7-10)

1. David's cry to the LORD
 - a. To hear when he cries with his voice
 - b. To have mercy and answer him
 - c. For his heart responded to the LORD saying "Seek My face"
2. David's plea to the LORD
 - a. Do not hide His face from him
 - b. Do not turn His servant away in anger, for He has been his help
 - c. Do not leave or forsake him, for He is the God of his salvation
3. David's hope in the LORD
 - a. When forsaken by his parents
 - b. The LORD will take care of him

B. PLEA FOR DELIVERANCE (11-12)

1. David's request for guidance from the LORD
 - a. To teach him His way
 - b. To lead him in a smooth path, because of his enemies
2. David's reason for asking the LORD for deliverance from his adversaries
 - a. For false witnesses have risen against him
 - b. Such as breathe out violence

III. REASSURING SELF IN TIME OF DANGER (27:13-14)

A. NEED FOR FAITH IN THE LORD (13)

1. He would have lost heart unless he believed
2. That he would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living

B. NEED TO WAIT ON THE LORD (14)

1. To be of good courage
2. He shall strengthen your heart

REVIEW QUESTIONS FOR THE PSALM

1) What are the main points of this psalm?

- Confident trust in time of danger (1-6)
- Anxious prayer in time of danger (7-12)
- Lessons learned in time of danger (13-14)

2) What does David offer as the solution to fear? (1)

- The LORD as one's light and salvation
- The LORD as one's strength in life

3) Why would David not fear though an army may encamp him? (2-3)

- In the past his enemies and foe stumbled and fell

4) What did David earnestly desire of the Lord? (4)

- To dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of his life
- To behold the beauty of the LORD, to inquire in His temple

5) Why did David desire such fellowship with God? (5)

- The LORD would hide him in His tabernacle in times of trouble

6) How would David respond to victory over his enemies? (6)

- Offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle
- Sing praises to the LORD

7) Why did David hope for the LORD to hear his prayer and have mercy on him? (7-9)

- He responded to the LORD's invitation to seek His face
- The LORD had been his help in time past

8) Who would take care of David when forsaken by his parents? (10)

- The LORD

9) What did David ask for when enemies and false witnesses rose against him? (11-12)

- For the LORD to teach him, and lead him in a smooth path
- For the LORD to not deliver him to the will of his enemies

10) What prevented David from losing heart? (13)

- Faith that he would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living

11) What is the key to being of good courage? (14)

- To wait on the LORD, for He will strengthen your heart