

## 7/1/25

I love how we find in the psalms that we can approach God with all honesty. We don't have to clean up our thoughts and give an appearance of having it all together with Him. We can come as we are and He meets us there. The wonderful news is, He doesn't leave us there.

Blessings, Jonna

## Psalm 27 ~

King David is the author of Psalm 27. It is one of the many psalms where he speaks of enemy attacks. He had so many battles in his lifetime that God would not allow him to build the temple. This broke David's heart and yet he understood. In the same way, I need to see that my life is filled with battles. And as much as it seems like it at time, my wrestle is not with flesh and blood, but with the present darkness of evil who likes to use people to do his dirty work.

I have one very important similarity to David. The answer for deliverance is never found in me, just as it was never found in David. My job is to stand firm in my faith and wait for the Lord. This takes trust in His goodness, wisdom, power, love, and faithfulness... and it takes humbly knowing that I am completely helpless without Him. I cannot rely on myself.

I love this psalm of David because he was honest with the Lord about the struggle AND relied on the Lord for his strength. God never calls me to fake my faith.

Vs. 1  $\sim$  "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?"

O Lord, You are my light who shows me where to walk. I am a reflection of Your light but I have no light of my own apart from You. You are my salvation. I cannot save myself. You are my stronghold, my protection. I have no strength to protect myself. But because You ARE my light and salvation and stronghold, I don't have to be afraid because You WILL take care of me. You

do all that You say You will do.

Vs. 2-3 ~ "When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident."

Father, the only way this can be true for me is if I put my confidence in You and keep my eyes on You. Evildoers, adversaries, and foes freak me out when I think I have to be the answer. I get afraid when I think lies about You... that You have abandoned me because of the struggle.

My problem is that I get caught up in believing that I should have heaven on earth... comfort and ease with no suffering. That IS my assurance for heaven, but NOT for this broken world. Here, I will face adversaries and foes. The way my heart won't fear is if I keep my heart set on You.

Father, please help me to speak Your truth to my heart. Adversaries and foes will taunt me... but You are greater than them. Your word says in Psalm 119:41-42, "Let YOUR steadfast love come to me, O Lord, YOUR salvation according to YOUR promise; then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in YOUR word." My job is not to trust in myself or my logic. My job is to know and speak Your word... and hold it close to my heart.

Vs. 4-6 ~ "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. 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. 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."

O Lord, be my ONE thing. Please help me to seek You and only You. My hope is that I get to dwell with You forever. I get to gaze upon Your beauty. I get to draw near to Your throne of grace. I ask You for help to do this, and I also make it my CHOICE to do this.

Why CHOOSE to make You my ONE thing? You see the trouble I face and You hide me in Your shelter. You conceal me so that I'm safe WITH YOU. You lift me high upon a rock where the enemy cannot reach me.

Because You are who You say You are, my head IS lifted up above where my enemies can reach me. Because You do what You say You will do, I can focus on worshiping You rather than worrying about the enemy. And yet You don't reject me when I do cry out to You in fear...

Vs. 7-10 ~ "Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, 'Seek MY face.' My heart says to You, 'YOUR face, Lord, do I seek.' 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! For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but

the Lord will take me in."

O Lord, I cry out to You to hear me, and You give me Your answer... "Seek MY face." Seeking the faces of the enemy will terrify me because I know that I'm not strong enough to fight them. I will lose. Sometimes the ones who are supposed to love me the most are the ones who abandon me. But You never do. I pray that You will never hide from me or turn away from me in anger. I pray that You won't cast me aside or abandon me. But even when I fear that You will, You won't.

In the moment of the struggle, I may panic. But You will not reject me. You remind me to look back and see how You've been faithful through every trial. And You have. You have been merciful when I sinned against You. You've been faithful and strong when others have sinned against me. You've sustained me when the trials of this broken world have washed on my shore. You're faithful. You never leave me. You always take me in.

Vs. 11-12 ~ "Teach me Your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence."

Please teach me YOUR way and then I won't fear the enemy's way. Help me to follow YOUR path because the enemy breathes out violence against me to scare me into following a different path. There is no light on any path but Yours.

Vs. 13-14 ~ "I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!"

O Lord, what is the proof that I trust You as my light, salvation, strength, and hope? Wait for You. The only way I will be strong and have courage is if I wait for You. When I wait for You, I find that You're faithful to sustain me and deliver me. I WILL see Your goodness in the land of the living... because You have loved me with an everlasting, covenant loyal, unconditional love. So Father, please help me to wait for You, to take refuge in You, to learn from You, to follow You. You give my heart courage to keep my eyes on You. Please be my ONE thing.