

BELIEVER'S FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

PSALM 27

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?

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

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.

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.

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." 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.

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!

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

LORD: The Hebrew word *Yᵉhōvâ* is used 11 times in Psalm 27

Jehovah = "the existing One". The proper name of the one true God

Verses 1 – 3: Rehearsing Biblical Truth

- The LORD is my light and my salvation;
- The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
 - Result
 - No fear/Not afraid
 - Victory/Confidence

Verse 4: Eternal Perspective

- One thing have I asked of the LORD,
- I seek after:
 - Dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life
 - Gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

Verse 5: Positional Reality

- Day of trouble
 - he will hide me in his shelter
 - he will conceal me under the cover of his tent
 - he will lift me high upon a rock

Verse 6: Positional Reality

- Head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me
 - Result – Worship
 - I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
 - I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Verses 7 – 10: Painful Reality

- Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
- Be gracious to me and answer me!

Verses 11 and 12: Great Need

- For my father and my mother have forsaken me
- My enemies
- My adversaries
 - False witnesses have risen against me,
 - They breathe out violence.

Verses 13 and 14: The Realization

13 I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

14 Wait for the LORD;

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

What we know about David:

- A man after God's own heart
- As a young shepherd boy he slew the giant
- Knows that the Lord is his Shepherd
- Has seen God provide and protect in numerous ways
- Knows truth
- Is able to humbly repent

David - According to Psalm 27

- Knows that the LORD is his light and salvation
- Knows evildoers and adversaries will stumble and fall
- Knows he can remain confident when attacked
- Knows what to ask for
- Knows what leads to worship
- Needs the LORD to be gracious to him and answer him.
- Knows to seek the LORD's face
- Cries out to the LORD
 - Please don't hide your face from me
 - Please don't turn me away
 - Please don't cast me off
 - Please don't forsake me
- Has been forsaken by his father and mother
 - Knows the LORD will take him in
- Knows he needs to be taught and led by the LORD because he has enemies
- Asks not to be given up to the will of his adversaries
 - False witnesses are against him and are breathing out violence.
- Strongly states what he believes
 - He will look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living
- Reminds himself to:
 - Wait for the LORD
 - Be strong
 - Let your heart take courage
 - Wait for the LORD

David – He is kind of all over the board!

- He knows truth
 - But he has fears
 - But he has struggles both positionally and personally
 - He calls out to God
 - He reminds himself of what he needs to do in obedience

Wait: He ends this Psalm with a strong reminder of the necessity to “Wait for the Lord.”

Why?

Waiting requires us:

1. To trust
2. To submit
3. To be patient
4. To be strong
5. To let our heart take courage

NOT Waiting:

- Creates self reliance
 - Only “head knowledge” about God
 - Relational discourse
 - Poor judgement
 - Discontentment

Contentment – Philippians 4

10 I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. 11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for **I have learned** in whatever situation **I am to be content**. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, **I have learned** the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

WAITING

Is there something you are “waiting” for? If so, how is that going?

- Are you seeing any patterns of self reliance in your life right now?
 - Are you hiding or not being fully honest with yourself and others?
- Are you experiencing any relational discourse right now?
 - Are you frustrated with family and/or friends for not getting on board with you?
 - Are you looking at bigger and broader things like politics or a major move to solve the issues?
- Are you sensing any discontentment in life right now? If so, what’s the impact?
 - Are you simply board and shut down?
 - Are you actively bitter and resentful?
 - Are you making any unhealthy choices in life?
 - Are you questioning God?
 - Are you fully present and engaged here this morning?

TABLE TIME or TIME ALONE:

1. How easy is it for you to wait?
2. Are you aware of anything you are currently “waiting” on?
3. Is there a time in your mind when you had to “wait” and you experienced a deep sense of “contentment”?
4. Are you dealing with any lack of “contentment” in your life right now?
5. How can we better walk with each other when we are “waiting” or struggling with “contentment”?