

My heart is fixed...

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

Psalm 57:7

The first six verses of Psalm 57 record what seems to be a hopeless situation for David as he is being pursued by the jealous and vengeful King Saul. David's calamities were described as if he was being swallowed up while surrounded by lionlike men. His enemies had set traps for him, and they were armed with spears and arrows. In verse 5 David stops pouring out his troubles and must exalt his God as he catches a glimpse of Him in all His glory. But like all of us, his focus slips back to his bleak and desperate situation. Then suddenly David draws deep from the well of his soul and determines to be resolved regardless of his circumstances and cries out to the Lord "My heart is fixed..." at which point he erupts with praise to his God. Verse 7 records this abrupt turning point where David's focus turns from all the overwhelming circumstances that surround him...and his heart was fixed! All the evil that his enemy could bring against him could not overcome the power that issues from the praise he declares for his God. In verses 7 through 11 David's heart overflows with the praise that reassures him that his God is greater than his greatest trial.

The many and varied trials and conflicts of David that are recorded in scripture often remind us of the assaults that Satan brings against us. Like David, we also are pursued by the enemy of our soul. Peter is inspired to tell us that Satan is like a roaring lion who seeks to devour us with a goal of producing fear, worry and even the temptation to quit. The next time we find ourselves in a similar situation, may we like David say "my heart is fixed" and find that delivering power of praise for our God.

JDE