

Hold On to Yahweh

Psalm 27:1-6

INTRO:

This Psalm is always a favorite. Who is not moved by David's great proclamation? ***"The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?"*** Our rebellious heart cries out, *"Wait a minute! David was not faced with the coronavirus."* True, but this does not change the reality of what David said. If there ever was a time we needed to not let this truth slip from our grasp, it is now. Our Lord is still the same and He still hears our prayers and He still answers. David will close this Psalm sincerely pleading for God's intercession in his trouble. That plea is built on this promise. We may plead now, but the root of our pleading is the assurance that God will act. Let us then take hold again of David's assurance.

I. David's Assurance (1-3)

II. David's Joy (4-6)

I. David's Assurance (1-3)

"The LORD is my light and my salvation;

Whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the defense of my life;

Whom shall I dread?" Psalm 27:1

A. David found strength and encouragement in Who God is. David used God's covenant name as he stated Who God is and what He has done for David. **Verse one** contains two statements of the nature of Yahweh, and then he asks two important questions which follow from these realities. Reality one is, ***"The LORD is my light and my salvation."***

1. God is light. This is unquestionably true. In **1 John 1:5**, John summarizes God's self-revelation in Christ in these words. ***"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."*** Our fellowship with the living God hangs on this fact. But what

does this statement mean? In **1 John** it means our God is pure and is opposed to sin. This is clear because, if we fellowship with the living God we must walk in the light. The way we walk in the light is to have our sins forgiven (**1 John 1: 7**) and the way our sins are forgiven is through our confession through Christ (**1 John 1:9**).

2. The second idea in light is that light reveals reality. We find this principle in John's Gospel (e.g. **John 3:19-20**). ***"And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed."***

B. He is also **"my salvation."** The Hebrew word means **"deliverer."** Yahweh both delivers us temporally as well as eternally. He has and will continue to deliver me from trouble and take us all the way to glory.

C. Because Yahweh is our light and our deliverer, how do we respond? **"Whom shall I fear?"** We know that while God is leading us, making us like Him, and delivering us, we never need to be afraid of anything which shoves into our lives.

D. The second half of **verse 1** is Hebrew parallelism. ***"The LORD is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?"*** David repeats this same thought in different words and intensifies the statement. The word rendered strength means ***"stronghold or refuge."*** Yahweh is the place we can hide and the rock from whom we draw strength.

E. The result is we have no reason ***"to tremble or be in terror."*** **Psalm 23:4** rushes into our minds here. ***"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."***

"When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh,

My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

Though a host encamp against me,

My heart will not fear;

Though war arise against me,

In spite of this I shall be confident” Psalm 27:2-3.

F. How does the confidence show itself in real life? David began with his history. He remembered how God showed Himself strong for David in the past. **“When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, my adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.”** David was a man who knew trouble intimately. He had walked through many valleys of death and trouble. Each and every time God delivered him. Yahweh never failed.

G. From this past, David projected his future. **“Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident” (Psalm 27:2-3).** God will always deliver me, so my heart should not fear.

II. David’s Joy (4-6)

“One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek:

**That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
To behold the beauty of the LORD and to meditate in His temple.
For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle;
In the secret place of His tent He will hide me;**

He will lift me up on a rock.

**And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me,
And I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD” Psalm 27:4-6.**

A. Where does this confidence in **verses 1 and 2** come from? Its root is a vibrant fellowship with the living God. David’s great desire to see and know his Yahweh drove his life and its goals. David wrote, I have a single desire. I do not want riches or power as much as I want to be with You and see You as You are,

LORD. Look at the parallel lines here reiterating that desire in many different ways.

1. First, He asserted his goal. **“One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek.”** The parallel line described what he meant. **“That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.”**

2. He then amplified what this looked like in David’s mind. **“To behold the beauty of the LORD and to meditate in His temple.”** David sought to see the beauty of the LORD, and to think about Him in the place of His presence.

B. **“For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle;”** This fleshed out David’s assertion in **verse 1**. Yahweh, Himself, was his place of refuge. The parallel reinforces this expectation. **In the secret place of His tent He will hide me;**

C. As with his expected refuge in the living God, David’s deliverance is described. **“He will lift me up on a rock.”** What does that look like? **“And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me.”** The result is praise paid to the living God, not because God somehow needed it, but because David owed it to the LORD.

What do we learn from David here?

1. First, we all need this kind of confidence in our always faithful Lord. This Psalm does not end with this great statement of assurance. The next section is an urgent plea for God to act. Did David lose his rock solid confidence in Yahweh? No, precisely because he believed, he pleaded with the LORD to answer him in his trials. We find ourselves locked up in our own homes and facing an enemy we cannot see. Do we cast away our confidence, or do we pray the more earnestly because we have this confidence. The writer of Hebrews counseled his readers.

Hebrews 10:35–36 **“Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:”**

2. I think the last two verses of this Psalm needs to be our motto in this test.

Psalm 27:13–14 *“I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!”*