

“Hear O LORD”

Psalm 27:7-14

INTRO:

There are some who try to divide Psalm 27 into two Psalms because it seems to be diverse in topic and in addressee. The first part of the Psalm is a great assertion of confidence in the living God and addressed to someone else. David speaks of God in the third person, singing of his confidence in the faithfulness and protection of God in his life. Some assume that this confidence means when trials intrude into his life he responds with stoic resolve.

But David is a real man. He shows us how this confidence really looks in practice. He does that by letting us listen in as he talks to God. We find that we exercise our confidence in the LORD being our light and salvation by: **(1)** Pleading with God (v. 7-9), **(2)** Reminding ourselves about what is true about God (v. 10, 13-14), and **(3)** Spending time seeking God’s Way (v. 11-12).

I. Pleading (v.7-9)

II. Reminding (v. 10, 13-14)

III. Seeking (v.11-12)

I. Pleading (v.7-9)

A. If we believe firmly what David stated about God in the first half of **Psalm 27**, how do we act when trouble comes? Is it not logical to look at how David responds? That is the purpose for the second part of this Psalm. This is faith in action. Note first of all that this kind of faith is **not** expressed by inaction or stoic acceptance. *“**Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me. ⁸When You said, ‘Seek My face,’ My heart said to You, ‘Your face, LORD, I will seek.’ ⁹Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.**”*

B. *There are some who say that if we believe the promise of God that He hears our prayer we do not need to plead because that shows unbelief.* Those Bible teachers needed to tell **David** and **Daniel**, (**Daniel 9**) because they firmly believed that God answered prayer and expressed that faith by urgent pleading with God to be heard. We must not forget that God is a personal God. He is not robot. He wants us to ask Him for what we need when we need it. You remember the statement that James makes in **James 4:2**? *“**You do not have because you do not ask.**”*

C. David prays that God will hear him. No matter how much we know and trust God it must be an ever present thought in our hearts as we come to Him that we do not **deserve** the

least of His favors. In **Psalm 130:3-4** we read, *“**6** If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? **4** But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.”* This realization leads David, even with his assurance in God to cry out in a sense of desperation to God. He pleads for mercy and to be heard. As a friend of mine says, we are to approach the Throne of Grace boldly but not arrogantly!

D. In **verses 8-9** he gives us a glimpse into his own relationship with God. He is always ready to seek his God out. *“**6** When You said, ‘Seek My face,’ My heart said to You, ‘Your face, LORD, I will seek.’ **9** Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.”* Do we know how to plead with God? Maybe we should learn.

II. Reminding (v. 10, 13-14)

A. Practicing our Assurance in God also involves remembering and reminding ourselves of Who God is and what He does. For having lost his great assurance that he had in this half of **Psalm 27**, (which I don't think he did) David still holds on to some great truths. *“**10** When my father and my mother forsake me, Then the LORD will take care of me.”* **THE FIRST GREAT REALITY THAT DAVID REMINDS HIMSELF OF IS THAT GOD IS FAITHFUL TO TAKE CARE OF HIM.**

Good parents instinctively take care of their children. If even his most faithful helpers fail him, David knows that God will take care of Him. Remember **1 Peter 5:7**? *“Casting all your anxiety on Him for He cares for you.”* David believed in this truth before Peter wrote it down for us, and he [David] practiced it.

B. **THE SECOND MAJOR THING THAT DAVID REMINDED HIMSELF OF WAS TWO-FOLD.** *“I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. **14** Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!”* **First, he believed that he would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.** God was not done blessing him or using him in this present world. We give up hold if we let go of this truth.

Second, He reminded himself of the importance of waiting. Several years ago there was a song, “Learning to lean on Jesus.” I think that we need a song that teaches us what David reminds us to do, “Learn to wait upon the LORD.” **We can wait because we know that God is in control and that although He is not in a hurry, He is never late.**

What David is doing here is the truth the Apostle Paul teaches us in **Philippians 4:8**. *“Finally, brethren, **whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.**”*

III. Seeking (v.11-12)

A. THE LAST THING THAT BELIEVING THAT GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH DOES IS TO CAUSE US TO SEEK HIS WAY. Psalm 27:11–12 says, *“¹¹Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies. ¹²Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; For false witnesses have risen against me, And such as breathe out violence.”*

B. The bare minimum we learn from this verse is that God does have plan for our lives and that we should seek Him to discover what that is. The path is to be smooth, plain, or level. Still, David is praying that God will teach it to him and it is God’s path! *“Teach me your way, O LORD, I will walk in your truth, Unite my heart to fear Your name” Psalm 86:11.*

C. In view of this seeking He is asking for deliverance from evil.

So, we say we believe that God is all that is said in **verses 1-6** of this Psalm. When the bottom falls out of our lives do we Plead with God? Remind us what we know to be true about Him and in His Word? Seek His will and way for our lives? If we do, we really do understand and believe that God is our refuge and strength and a very present help in the time of trouble!