

PSALM 27

A Psalm of Fearless Trust in God.

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Roy Enoch (2-16-94).
- B. A Psalm of David.
- C. The contrast of the first six verses and the last six, have caused some to suggest that it may have originally two separate psalms combined into one.
- D. Those who argue for two psalms point to differences in tone, and to the fact that trust usually follows lament, rather than proceed it as here; to the fact that both parts seem complete in themselves, and that 27:1-6 address God in the third person, but 27:7-17 address Him in the second person.
- E. Those who argue for unity point to a concern for enemies in both sections and to affirmations of faith in both sections, though the emphasis of the first section is confidence in God, and the second section on apprehension about God turning from him, and of the danger of sin.

COMMENTS.

- A. Psa. 27:1-3:

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the defense of my life;
Whom shall I dread?

2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh,
My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

3 Though a host encamp against me,
My heart will not fear;
Though war arise against me,
In spite of this I shall be confident.

We have many reasons for joy, confidence and thanksgiving. We just need to spend more time thinking of our blessings and being thankful.

- B. Psa. 27:4-6:

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.

5 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.

6 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.

It is indeed proper for us to ask blessings of the Lord and for His protection from evil and other dangers. (Remember the prayer the Lord used to teach the disciples to pray?) There is no safety or peace on earth that compares to that which the Lord gives.

- C. Psa. 27:7,8:

Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice,
And be gracious to me and answer me.

8 When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You,
"Your face, O LORD, I shall seek."

David seems to feel a need to remind the Lord that he was seeking His face as the Lord had taught him to do. We must remember that the Lord has taught us to do the same through His word.

- D. Psa. 27:9-12:

Do not hide Your face from me,
Do not turn Your servant away in anger;
You have been my help;

Do not abandon me nor forsake me,
O God of my salvation!

10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
But the LORD will take me up.

11 Teach me Your way, O LORD,
And lead me in a level path
Because of my foes.

12 Do not deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries,
For false witnesses have risen against me,
And such as breathe out violence.

We often may think that a strong faith will give us such peace and confidence that we will feel no need to petition God's help, but the opposite is true: when we trust completely, we depend on God the most and feel the desire to call upon Him and to praise Him. David seeks an even greater leading and dependence on God's blessings.

E. Psa. 27:13,14:

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD
In the land of the living.

14 Wait for the LORD;
Be strong and let your heart take courage;
Yes, wait for the LORD.

Here is valuable admonition on how to be at peace and to prosper: seek and depend on the Lord and not on ourselves or others, and not on things that we may have. If we do not have hope, we despair.