

Psalm 27 Processing with God

The LORD *is* my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The LORD *is* the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?

²When the wicked came against me
To eat up my flesh,
My enemies and foes,
They stumbled and fell.

³Though an army may encamp against me,
My heart shall not fear;
Though war may rise against me,
In this I *will be* confident.

⁴One *thing* I have desired of the LORD,
That will I 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 inquire in His temple.

⁵For in the time of trouble
He shall hide me in His pavilion;
In the secret place of His tabernacle
He shall hide me;
He shall set me high upon a rock.

⁶And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all
around me;
Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

⁷Hear, 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.

¹⁰When my father and my mother forsake me,

Then the LORD will take care of me.

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.

¹³I would have lost heart, unless I had believed

That I would see the goodness of the LORD

In the land of the living.

¹⁴Wait on the LORD;

Be of good courage,

And He shall strengthen your heart;

Wait, I say, on the LORD!

The Bible refers to David as a man after God’s own heart!

A)Two ideas in that statement – One was that David had a Shepherds heart like God’s heart

B)God saw in David someone who would care for Israel the way that He did

1)A true shepherd

C)But I think that statement also Means – David was After God’s heart

D)David pursued the heart of God!

I love what David says in Psalm 63

O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You;

My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You

In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.

2So I have looked for You in the sanctuary,

To see Your power and Your glory.

I love that heart and thirst for God

A)The times in David’s life when he was the strongest and most blessed

B)Were the times when pursuing God was his #1 passion and desire

C)And The times when he really struggled – were the times when he got focused on other things

D)Let that be a lesson for us all!

Tonight what I want us to glean from David as we look at Psalm 27 is how David processed with God

A)Good to Verbal process with God –

B)He looks at what is going on in his life through the lens of who God is.

C) So tonight Different approach to Psalm 27

1) I want to see what we can learn about processing situations with God - Sound good

David presents the Problem in 2-3,10

A) ²When the wicked came against me
To eat up my flesh,
My enemies and foes,
They stumbled and fell.

³Though an army may encamp against me,
My heart shall not fear;
Though **war** may rise against me, - on Horizon
In this I *will be* confident.

B) Now we are not sure what enemies David is dealing with at this point in his life

C) But he had many through the years – King Saul
Kings of other nations

D) Later in life his own Son Absalom turned against him..

In V.10 he mentions his mother and father forsaking him

A) The Bible doesn't give us a sense of when that happened

B) But maybe that is how He felt – during that time of wandering as a fugitive – Very Alone

C) I am sure you know that it is easy for our feelings to distort reality.

D) Wife and daughter Fear of spiders – there is a Giant Spider bathroom — Tarantula

In times of fear - We start thinking things that are not true.

A) That might have been the case in David's life

B) **Listen to your heart** – NO desperately wicked

C) Never a good idea – Listen to God – listen to the Holy Spirit

D) So that is the problem: That is what He is wrestling with.

But in the midst of the problem: David does the right thing He turns to the Lord.

A) By turning to the Lord David was moved in 3 ways in the midst of his problems

B) He Reacts in 3 ways in the midst of the situation

C) We see in this Psalm there is #1 Reverence for who God is and what He was done.

D) Then there were #2 There are Responses that David has to that Reverence

1) Each statement of Reverences shapes his response

Then finally #3 There are Request that David will make in light of those Responses

A) And then he end with some instruction for the People to learn from his processing

Reverence: Who God is – what He has done

V.1 The LORD *is* my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The LORD *is* the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?

My Light: rough times bring fear – and when fear is reigning – Things can seem really dark – Hopeless

A) Ever talk to someone being controlled by fear?

B) All they can see is the worst case scenario –

C) Caught up in the What if scenario

But when we focus on the Lord he has a way breaking through the darkness – His truth

A) His faithfulness

B) David grabs a hold of who God is – His light and his salvation – Nothing to fear!

V.2 David is referring to God in these verses as his fortress and protector

A) He is not exposed – he is not alone – the Lord is his shield

V.5 He provides a shelter to cover me.

He sets my feet on a firm foundation – Rock

A) Isn't that what we need the most in stormy times
Strong footing –

B) Not a slippery slope – not falling but sure footing

C) A Safe secure place to rest and seek shelter from the storm

D) One more – He calls him the God of his Salvation
My Savior

So those are the points of Reverence that David is latching on to in this moment.

A) The Bible says that the Devil is the Father of lies

B) In the difficult times in our lives – he loves to throw fiery darts into our minds

C) God Doesn't love you – He has abandoned you – he is mad at you

D) If God really loved you would this really be happening?

1) Those kind of LIES -

Put on the BELT OF TRUTH

A) Truth of Who God is – what he has done

B) The truth about who we are in Christ

C) So David in Reverence is applying truth God is My Light and my Salvation

My Strength – My Fortress – My Protector

D) He is my Shelter – My Rock my firm foundation
1) I am safe and secure in him

Guys this is when the Word of God starts moving from our head to our hearts

A) Moves from simply being Theory to becoming our Theology –

B) What we believe starts shaping how we live

C) TRIED AND PROVEN

So the next thing we want to note is David's Responses

A) V.3 I will not to give into Fear!

B) Fear isn't going to control me – hold me back
Kids and the Pool – papi has got me

C) My heavenly Papi has got me

Next response Fear is replaced by a healthy longing

⁴One thing I have desired of the LORD,

That will I 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 inquire in His temple.

Now the temple in Israel was not even built when David wrote this: Only Tabernacle

A) So David is not talking about a place or location

B) David is talking Presence – Lord I just want to be in your presence

C) I just want you!

Listen: You have heard me say – it is a wonderful thing to realize that Jesus is all you need.

A) But it is an even better place to be in when Jesus becomes ALL YOU WANT

B) Sometimes it is hard to get there – sometimes we think – something else will satisfy

C) When I was single – like many single guys I used to think – just find the right woman – married

I met Denise -she is definitely the right woman

A) Been married to Denise for 40 yrs best friend and the best thing about my life

B) And don't get me wrong – Marriage is wonderful

C) But Marriage is not it! – Not the end all – not the Satisfaction component

My life is way more blessed being married to such a great gal.

A) But it is also more complicated – more stressful at times – More expensive

B) But it is Amazing!

C) Didn't satisfy the longing -

⁸Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the LORD *for* His goodness, And *for* His wonderful works to the children of men! ⁹For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness. Psalm 107:8,9

It is Him and only Him – that Satisfied

A) Everything else is icing on the cake – everything else is the Marinade on the steak

B) So David has moved from Lord you are all I need

C) To Lord you are all I want – Seek You

V. 6 I will hold my head high – not down cast

V.6 I will offer sacrifices –

A) Not giving up on my Spiritual disciplines because things are not working out the way I thought

B) I am going offer sacrifices CSB **with shouts of Joy**

C) Not just going to go through the motions – ALL IN WITH MY WHOLE HEART

B)Do you know when The best time to worship is ? when you don't feel like it

C) Worship because He is worthy! Not because we feel like it

V.6b I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

A) Even in the times when I don't want to I am going to sing

B) The Power of Worship – **Brings Perspective** – MTS turn into Mole hills

1) Joe and Rachel Songs – so on point

Now One of the things that blesses me so much about some of you in this body is how you worship.

A) Especially those of you who I know are going through heavy things

B) I look at you and think – I know they are hurting – I can understand why they would be grumpy tonight

C) Then I watch you as you Worship and I am so blessed -**times convicted – Your problems Rob**

D) They know the secret of going Vertical with God

E) Such a blessing – Inspires me and others here too. Thank you – Don't stop

So we see David's Reverence – we see his Response to that Reverence

A)I will lift my head high – I will not give into fear

B)I am going to continue in my Spiritual disciplines and offer sacrifices

**C)One more V.8 ⁸*When You said, “Seek My face,”
My heart said to You, “Your face, LORD, I will seek.”***

D)I am going to press into who you are!

1)Not seeking comfort in anything else – Seeking you Lord!

E)So Good!!!!

Next His Request: Once his focus is right because of Reverence and his response is right

A)Leads to Right Request

⁷Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

B)Lord please hear me - He does– Always He hears – He answers

C)Yes/ No/ wait = silent

1)Always answers

Have mercy: Great prayer

A)Mercy is not getting what we do deserve

B)Don't ask God for Justice - What we deserve is not good –

C)Lord have mercy. – God is so merciful

1)Exodus 34 His Name

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness Lamentations 3:22,23 ESV

New Morning mercies

A)Everyday -I am choosing to respond to you with Mercy

B)If I tallied up your thought life – Driving habits conversations – actions from yesterday

1)What you Deserve would not be good

C)Clean slate today: Forgiven – Forgotten

So Because of who God is- David Prays Have mercy

Next V.9 Lord Don't abandon me

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.

Because I know you are all I need – you are all I want – Don't abandon me

A) Lord I can't make it without you

B) God loves when we move from independence to Dependence upon him

C) We teach our kids to be independent – specially the boys – Job – provide – Aaron so resourceful

D) Sometimes we can get so in that mode – it is hard for us to really see our need to be dependent on God

Jesus said in John 15 – For without me you can do nothing

A) We really don't believe that

B) There are lots of things that we can do without him

C) But if the goal of our life according to John 15 is to live a life that bears fruit and glorifies God in all things

D) We cannot accomplish that without him

11 Teach me Your way, O Lord, and lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.

A) Are you Teachable ? – leadable ?

B) The more we see God – learn of God -the more teachable we become

C) Dependable people are teachable people

Last request V.12-13

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

Lord you are my deliverer – you are my rock and fortress –

A) I don't need to defend myself – you will defend me

B) I trust in you.

C) V.13 is powerful – 13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

D) Because you are good – I have Hope –

E) I am believing you are working all things together for good – Your Good – your plan

1) Which ultimately results in my Good

I will see the goodness of God in the land of the living

A) That phrase in the land of living doesn't just mean among people who are alive vs the dead

B)It has deeper theological meaning than that

C)It refers to the life that is among God's people.

**D)Those who have been touched by Christ
redemptive work – were Dead – now alive**

E)This right here tonight is the land of the living

God stories in this room!

A)Think of one thing in your God's faithfulness

B)One thing maybe this week – His Grace

**C)Before we go tonight I want you to share that with
each other – in the land of the living**

So we have seen David's Problem

**A)He dealt with it by not focusing on the Horizontal
but getting Vertical**

**B)Saw His Reverence – He worships and exalts God
for who He is**

**C)Leads to him having the Right Responses in
seeking God –**

D)Lead to the Right Request

**E)All of that is the affect of processing life through
the lens of who God is – lens of scripture**

Now he is ready to give instruction

**14Wait on the Lord; be of good courage,
And He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the
Lord!**

When everything in you wants to Run

**A)When everything in you wants to give up
Check out**

B)When everything in you wants to lash out

**C)Whatever you tendency is when you are under
attack**

David says DON'T DO IT – Wait on the Lord

A)Be of good courage – because of Who He is

B)Because He is with you – For You – In YOU

C)Wait – And he will strengthen your heart

**³¹But those who wait on the LORD
Shall renew *their* strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint. - Isaiah 40:31**