



PSALMS

SEEKING GOD IN THE HIGHS & LOWS

Psalm 27

Wait for the LORD.
Trustingly. Patiently. And expectantly.

Psalm 27

1. The LORD is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?

2. When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.

3. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

4. One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

5. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

6. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

7. Hear my voice when I call, LORD; be merciful to me and answer me.

8. My heart says of you, “Seek his face!” 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 helper. Do not reject or forsake me, God my savior.

10. Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.

11. Teach me your way, LORD, lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

12. Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations.

13. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

14. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Psalm 27: Overview

1. What are the Psalms?
 2. What types is Psalm 27?
 3. Remember the seven categories?
 4. Which of these fits Psalm 27?
 5. Which book contains Psalm 27?
 6. What does that mean?
 7. Who wrote this Psalm 27?
1. Poems, songs and prayers.
 2. Prayer? Poem? Poetic prayer?
 3. Royal, imprecatory, penitential, Messianic, hymn, wisdom, lament
 4. Lament? Imprecatory? Other?
 5. Book 1
 6. Parallel: Genesis; Focus: Messiah; Theme: man
 7. David

Type of Psalm	Description
Royal	Focus on the king as the son of David
Imprecatory	Calls for God's judgment against God's enemies
Penitential	Confesses sorrow for sin and appeals to God for grace
Messianic	Describes some aspect of the Messiah's person or ministry
Hymns	Song of praise and thanksgiving to God
Wisdom	General observations on life
Lament	Laments one's conditions

Psalm 27: Overview

8. What was going on in David's life when he wrote Psalm 27?

8. He was either running from King Saul (1 Samuel 19-31) or his son Absalom (2 Samuel 15-18).

9. Pause. Who was David? And why is he so important?

9. Youngest son. Killed Goliath. Writer. Dancer. Harpist. Warrior. King. Adulterer. "Man after God's own heart?"

10. What's the Davidic covenant?

10. God's promise to create eternal kingdom, send Messiah ... connects Moses' era to Jesus.

Psalm 27: Let's get inductive

Q: OK, so what's David saying? Is this just about David's situation? Or does it apply to us?

A: Verse 14: "Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD"

Q: Wait on the Lord is a common theme in the Bible, but what does it mean?

A: Isaiah 40:31

Psalm 37:7

Lamentations 3:25

Proverbs 20:22

Psalm 27: Waiting

In biblical Hebrew, “waiting” is an active, forward-leaning posture rather than passive sitting or killing time. (Wait like a waiter?)

Qavah – twist, braid or entwine together (also implies an expectant physical tension)

Yachal – wait with focused, expectant hope (wait things out because you trust the final outcome) (Wait like a kid at a ballgame?)

Chakah – sharp, strategic pause before action (waiting on the right moment without jumping ahead of God, because you know that his next move will change everything.) (2 Chron. 20:21-22)

Psalm 27: Trustingly

It's hard to wait on something if you can't trust it.

Q: In Psalm 27, does David give us reasons to trust God?

A: There are lots of verses that apply. Let's go through and see how many we can identify?

However ...

Q: David is more so reciting things he believes. What examples from David's life do we have that help us understand why he's so confident?

A: I'll give you Goliath, but let's come up with a few more.

Psalm 27: Trustingly

Q: What about you? Do you have reasons to trust God? Can you share?

A: My easiest example to explain is my career.

Q: Can we use the Bible to identify reasons to trust?

A: Scholars say about 2,500 prophecies are listed in scripture. About 2,000 have been fulfilled. The remaining 500 deal with end times. Jesus, himself, fulfilled more than 300 Old Testament prophecies.

Q: Does God change his mind?

A: Numbers 23:19; 1 Samuel 15:29; Malachi 3:6

Psalm 27: Trustingly

Q: Wait, God changed his mind in Amos, Exodus and Jonah. How do you square that?

A: Let's read: Amos 7:3; Exodus 32:14; Jonah 3:10

God is merciful and compassionate. He'll commute a sentence if people show genuine remorse, repentance and contrition.

Psalm 27: Patiently

Q: OK, so how do we wait? Like what do we do while we're waiting?

A: Let's read: Verse 6

"... I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD."

Now, let's read Verse 8:

"My heart says of you, 'Seek his face!' Your face, LORD, I will seek."

Q: Do you remember the translations of "wait"?

A: Good time to talk about 2 Chron. 20: 21-22, right? Any other examples of chakah? Qavah? Yachal?

Psalm 27: Expectantly

Q: What can we expect?

A: Let's read: Verse 13

"I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living."

Q: OK, but if Romans 5:3-5 or Romans 8:28 are true, how can we define "goodness"?

A: Glad you asked! Jeremiah 29:11, Genesis 50:20, Job 42:10, Isaiah 61:7, 2 Corinthians 4:17, Ephesians 3:20-22, Haggai 2:9, Ecclesiastes 3:11, Malachi 3:7, Zechariah 1:3 and 2 Chronicles 15:7

Psalm 27: Expectantly

Q: But isn't this "prosperity gospel"? Doesn't it reduce God to a genie or a vending machine?

A: Maybe for some people. But I don't see it like that.

For me, these are Biblical examples that show that hardship might be part of Christian life, but it's not ALL of Christian life.

For me, this bolsters my faith and reminds me to read Matthew 7:9-11 and Romans 8:17.

Now, let's go sing.

My sons are getting baptized today!

Why Study the Psalms?

1. They reveal the character of God
2. They teach us how to pray
3. They teach us how to worship
4. They help us process full scope of human emotions
5. They remind us about God's faithfulness
6. They point us to Jesus
7. They inspire us to live with faith & wisdom



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