

Sunday Night Message

May 19, 2013

Psalm 27 – Wait, I say, on the Lord

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 27

Introduction

This Psalm is another one of the Psalms of David. Possibly, it was written during the times that King Saul was pursuing David; or possibly it was at the time that his son Absalom was in rebellion.

It could have been written at any time during David's life. He had experienced times of trial even as a young man shepherding the sheep. You will recall that a lion and a bear attacked David while protecting his father's sheep.

*"David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee."
(1 Samuel 17:37)*

"As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people." (Proverbs 28:15)

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" (1 Peter 5:8)

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (2 Timothy 3:12)

Anytime you are trying to feed God's flock, and serve God's flock, you can expect to be attacked by your enemies. The devil is your enemy; this world system is your enemy. Religion is your enemy. Sometimes, even your old friends and family members can act as an enemy towards you.

"Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets." (Luke 6:26)

This Psalm was applied directly to David personally, and to Israel corporately, but is also very practical and can give comfort and be applied to believers in any dispensation.

Psalm 27 breaks up naturally into three divisions: David's Personal Possessions (Psalm 27:1 - 6); David's Positive Prayer to God (Psalm 27: 7 - 12); and David's Public Proclamation to the God's People (Psalm 27:13 - 14).

I David's Personal Possessions (vs. 1 - 6)

A David possessed God's Presence

Notice the word "my" in v. 1 - this is very personal, and speaks of ownership or possession. If I own something I can call it mine. If something belongs to me, I can call it mine - (ie. my wife)

1 "my light" - speaks of God's guidance and direction

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psalms 119:105)

2 "my salvation" - speaks of God's love

He didn't save us by His love, He saved us through the sacrifice of His Son; but He provided the means of salvation and offers us the free gift of salvation, because He loves us.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
(John 3:16)

3 "my strength" - Speaks of life - our lives are in the hands of God.

Interestingly, the apostle John wrote of these same things in his first epistle.

God is light

*"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5)*

God is love

*"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love**. ... And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. **God is love**; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." (1 John 4:7-8, 16)*

God is Life

*"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and **this life is in his Son**. ... And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. **This is the true God, and eternal life**." (1 John 5:11, 20)*

David just made it more personal in Psalm 27. He said: God is my light; God is my love (my salvation); and God is the strength of my life. (His life was held together by God's strength. My temporal life is in His hands, and my eternal life is secured by the clear promises of the Word of God.

If you are a child of God, you can make all of these things personal to yourself as well.

If you are "in Christ", you have nothing to fear from this world, or the devil for that matter. God's got you in His hands.

"And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." (Colossians 1:17)

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." (John 10:27-30)

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature,

shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35-39)

"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Ephesians 4:30)

David said, I am not going to be afraid of what man can do to me, because God has got my back.

B David Perceived (Recognized) God's Protection (vs. 2 - 5)

David was confident in God's protection.

Notice v. 12, we see again the basis of David's confidence – the presence of the Lord.

David was not saying that he wanted to live in the tabernacle, which by the way was not even located in the same town where David was. The ark at this time was at Gibeon. The ark was placed by David in a tent in Jerusalem during his reign as king, but the contents of the tabernacle along with the ark would not be together again until the temple was built by David's son, Solomon.

David was talking about the personal presence of God in his life. He was talking about his relationship with God. God said that David was a man after God's own heart.

*"And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will."
(Acts 13:22)*

"And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will." (Acts 13:22 KJV)

Notice in v. 5 – *"in the secret of his tabernacle"*

See Psalm 91

I think the secret place in the tabernacle is the mercy seat where the blood of atonement was offered. It speaks of Christ's crucifixion, and it is the place that makes a personal relationship with God possible.

Turn to John 15 – God wants us to continue to abide in that relationship.

C David Proffered God's Praise (v. 6)

Because of David's possession of God's light, God's love, and God's protection over his life, David could not help to proffer praise.

"But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel." (Psalms 22:3)

II David's Positive Prayer (vs. 7 – 12)

David could be very bold in his prayers to God today, because of two things:

1 They were based on the Promises of God

2 They were also based on Previous Experience

David could pray for God's continued presence (vs. 8 – 10), guidance (v. 11), and protection (v. 12), because God's promises, and also because of God's previous dealings with David.

We can come to God with confidence as well, when we are asking God to do things that He has promised that He would do. We can also be emboldened to ask for bigger things, because God has already delivered in the smaller things.

David trusted God to help him with the lion and bear, which gave him more confidence to trust him with the Giant, which gave him more boldness to take care of Saul; and so on.

Notice in v. 10 – God will be with you, when everybody else leaves you. You can depend on God, even when you are forsaken by family and friends.

I.e. – When the Amalekites came and burned down Ziklag, and had taken his wives (Ahinoam and Abigail), his children, and also the families of all his men. The Bible says that David's men wanted to stone him.

David did not have anybody that was on his side – no human friends or family to support him. Every single person turned against him.

What did David do?

*"And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: **but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.**"*
(1 Samuel 30:6)

God had David's back; and because David trusted in God, God delivered the Amalekites into David's hand; and God gave David and all of his men their families back.

III David's Public Proclamation

Notice – believed to see

The world says that you've got to see to believe; God says that you have to believe to see.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

David said that he believed in God, and as a result of his faith, God gave him some things: He gave him His presence, His direction, and His protection. God had already delivered David through many of life's trials.

Now David says to you and me. Keep going, keep serving, keep believing, don't quit. "Wait on the Lord"

"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

"For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth." (Psalms 37:9)