

PSALMS 27

This Psalms can be applied to David, to the Church and to Christ.

SURE CONFIDENCE IN GOD

{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 evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. {3} Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.

When Adam sinned and sin entered into the life of mankind, the light of the glory of God (in man) was put out and man tried to live by the light of his perceptions. We find a restoration of the life and light of God in the person and work of Jesus Christ. He becomes not only our light but also our strength. The inadequacy of our light and strength become very evident when the trials and challenges of those who would destroy us are made evident. When we are in Christ the schemes of the devil will not succeed. As Paul asked rhetorically, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

LOVE OF COMMUNION WITH GOD

{4} One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

It is rather amazing how many people say they expect and want to go to heaven and yet they spend little or no time with God in this stage of life. David looked with hope to that time when he would see God face-to-face; however, he (in this present life) also longed to be where God was believed to abide (in the temple or house of God).

{5} For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. {6} Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

We find our defense not in our own merit but in the merit of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the only place of safety is to be in Christ. We are seated (in a place of authority) with Christ in the heavenlies (above all the enemies). Such knowledge causes us to be joyful in the Lord.

PETITIONING GOD

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

Because we cannot physically see God and cannot physically hear His voice, we wonder if He hears us when we call upon Him. When we consider the disparity in the holiness and greatness of God to our own condition, we realize it is by His grace and because of His love that He hears and answers us.

{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 me or forsake me, O God my Savior. {10} Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.

Within us is a longing to be restored to the place we lost in the fall of mankind when sin entered the world. We question whether God is in hiding and we discover we are the ones who are hiding from God. God is there and He is for us. He is for us even when we do not deserve it. He loved us before we loved Him and He will love us even if conditions in our lives become so bad that even our parents would turn away from us.

{11} Teach me your way, O 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, breathing out violence.

The place of safety is on the path of righteousness. This is the way of the Lord. When we experience oppression and troubles it is typically a result of our wandering away from God. Yet at times, trouble will come to us because of our closeness to God. Those who attempt to destroy what God is doing will bring persecution to the people of God. Even His Son did not escape such violence.

ACKNOWLEDGING GOD'S POWER

{13} I am still 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.

Yet we can be confident of this, God is in control and He is the ultimate Victor. In Him, we also have victory. We may not see immediate results since God's timetable is different than what we might like to see.