

PSALM 27

MAIN IDEA: CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S GOODNESS

Intro

When we look at the Psalms, we get some good insight into the life of David. We see his many highs and lows, from Gods faithfulness, to his fearful moments on the run, being pursued by enemies, from his revelation in 139 of the intricacy of Gods design to the many psalms of lamenting to God.

And so we come to Psalm 27

Some think David penned this psalm before his stepping onto the throne, when he was in the midst of his troubles, and perhaps upon occasion of the death of his parents; but the Jews think he penned it when he was old, upon occasion of the wonderful deliverance he had from the sword of the giant, when Abishai succored him

The story actually goes: 2 Samuel 21:15-22

¹⁵ Once again there was a battle between the Philistines and Israel. David went down with his men to fight against the Philistines, and he became exhausted. ¹⁶ And Ishbi-Benob, one of the descendants of Rapha, whose bronze spearhead weighed three hundred shekels^[a] and who was armed with a new sword, said he would kill David.

¹⁷ But Abishai son of Zeruiah came to David's rescue; he struck the Philistine down and killed him. Then David's men swore to him, saying, "Never again will you go out with us to battle, so that the lamp of Israel will not be extinguished."

¹⁸ In the course of time, there was another battle with the Philistines, at Gob. At that time Sibbekai the Hushathite killed Saph, one of the descendants of Rapha.

¹⁹ In another battle with the Philistines at Gob, Elhanan son of Jair^[c] the Bethlehemite killed the brother of^[d] Goliath the Gittite, who had a spear with a shaft like a weaver's rod.

²⁰ In still another battle, which took place at Gath, there was a huge man with six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot—twenty-four in all. He also was descended from Rapha.²¹ When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son of Shimeah, David's brother, killed him.

²² These four were descendants of Rapha in Gath, and they fell at the hands of David and his men.

- **David led a mighty army and had seen Gods goodness**

Verse 1-3 How's your Confidence in God?

*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^[a] 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.*

- David has such a confidence in these verses!
- When trouble hit us, what is our first response?
Tell the world! Facebook! Sink into self-pity
- The Bible is full of passages that encourage us to seek God in hard times, some passages that tell us to rejoice in tough times.
- I think this is one of the hardest parts of Christianity to grasp. Perseverance and long-suffering.
- **God loves to work on our character**, and how do we know that our character has changed or matured? I think its to do with our first reaction to a situation. How we respond.

❖ **In hard times, Let our first response be our Confidence in God!**

- David had seen the goodness of the Lord. He had a history with God that built up his faithfulness.

David had a list of David's Victories in War

1 Chronicles 18 Later, David attacked and defeated the Philistines. He captured their town of Gath and the nearby villages.

² David also defeated the Moabites, and so they had to accept him as their ruler and pay taxes to him.

⁶ Then David stationed some of his troops in Damascus, and the people there had to accept David as their ruler and pay taxes to him.

Everywhere David went, the Lord helped him win battles. s

- **Do you see what David did here?** took the stolen things, the things in the midst of the trial, the things the enemy took, and gave them to God. He didn't take them for himself. **It's how we respond out of a struggle**
- **When we overcome suffering, we need to commit what the enemy took to God.** We need to give God all the glory, we need to remember him and bless him.

Everywhere David went, the Lord gave him victory in war.

Can we say this? Everywhere I walk, God gives me the victory. Everytime God gets the glory, everytime I realise that it's all his. That he gets my time, my wealth and my worship

- As South Africans we can be quite a sensitive people, very considerate. Sometimes overly so, that perhaps we can lack confidence. **Sometimes we need to walk with such confidence!**
- **We need to walk in boldness as to what our God can do. We need to contend for healing, for spiritual breakthrough in people's lives.**
- **Many of us battle with Fear. Fearlessness is what God calls us to**

David says:

'Even though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear'

What's the challenge?

- ❖ Bad health outlook?
- ❖ Lost your job?
- ❖ Fallen out of relationship with someone?

- ❖ Unless we learn to hand him situation and entrust them into his care, we will never build up a history with God

God is bigger! Who do we give the glory to?

Moving on

Verse 4-6 Dwell in his house

*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.*

Here David uses his confidence and shifts to the joy of dwelling in Gods house

❖ Learn to love Gods House

Check how the Amplified puts it:

4 One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek, inquire for, and[insistently] require: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord [in His presence] all the days of my life, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] of the Lord and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple. [Ps. 16:11; 18:6; 65:4; Luke 2:37.]

❖ I love watching shows about interesting homes

- I found some interesting homes to show you:
- Transparent home
- Skateboard home

- **Worlds thinnest home**
- **1sqM home**

Home is where we let go, where we feel safe. This is what David thought of Gods house. He loved it!

- David longed for the day when the wars were over and when he could spend his time in the courts, at the temple ministering to God. His heart was worship, he longed to be in this place. **Do we long** to be with God's people worshipping together, ministering together. Is it a case of having to kick people out because they won't leave. Sometimes we're out of here so fast! What if we don't know anyone!

David knew something of the Lords goodness, he had tasted of God. And once you've tasted you don't forget it.

- **Somebody feed Phil:** Everything he tastes, he just gives off the most amazing expression. He's like a child enjoying things for the first time.

When you've truly tasted of the Lords goodness you don't forget it. Some of us have smelt it, we've seen it from a far, but we haven't tasted it. Because when you've tasted it, you come back for more and more and more...

David says, for in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling. This is a safe place, Gods presence is a safe place. God has prepared a table for us in the presence of our enemies.

When we feel fear grip us, when we are facing a spiritual battle, dwell in the house of God, abide in God, and love this place.

- **When last did you taste of his goodness?**

Verse 7-12 Continually seek his face

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 me 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.*

AMP

8 You have said, Seek My face [inquire for and require My presence as your vital need]. My heart says to You, Your face (Your presence), Lord, will I seek, inquire for, and require [of necessity and on the authority of Your Word].

❖ Continually seek his Face

This is a call to intimacy: God calls us to seek himself for himself. Why would he say this. Because his face is radiant with Glory. It's the only thing that will satisfy the desire of a living soul. When we seek his face, he opens his hands out to us. And this satisfies the desires of every living thing.

Psalm 145:16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

We have to realise that only God, only God can satisfy our deepest desires.

- ❖ Not Takealot, no shopping, not social media, which sometimes only leaves us more empty. Not sport, not our children, not our spouses, only GOD!

Seeking HIS FACE! Jesus only you

- Martin Smith has recently written a song called: Jesus only You. It goes:

*Jesus, only You
Jesus, only You
You're the One who I adore, Jesus
There is no one I want more, Jesus
You will always have my heart
You will always have my heart, Jesus*

Until he is King, our hearts and minds will always be wondering. Until we become obsessed with him, thinking about him, being preoccupied with him, we will never be satisfied.

Finally David tells us to
❖ **Wait for the Lord**

Verse 13-14 Wait for the Lord

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.*

We all desire to see God glorified in our land. But need to pray for it. We need to ask God for a love for every person, for justice, and that we would care enough to get involved.

In South Africa, no matter who we are, we can't sit back and wait for the next person. For a time such as this, we need to ask God to reveal to us where we can make a difference! Where we can love. Most importantly to intercede and pray for our land. To celebrate Gods goodness.

And Finally, Wait for the Lord. Wait on him
Story of a waiter waiting on his guests..being attentive to them

The 6 soft skills that define the worlds best waiters

- Attention to detail
- Reading people
- Speed and efficiency
- Product confidence
- Attentive listening
- A desire to exceed expectations

➤ We all like to be waited on.

- **Sometimes in our relationship with God we automatically take the role of the guest. We take a seat, and we expect the service to start. God why aren't you coming through.**
- **When perhaps, our role was primarily meant to be the one who waits on God, who serves him, who blesses him.**
- Because God is so amazing that he always responds to us.
- Perhaps this is a life about seeking to lift God to the highest place, because then he lifts us up, and we walk in victory

Jesus served the will of his father by giving his life to us, and look where he got exalted to, the right hand of the father. Let's serve our father, Lets go forth in confidence knowing.

This morning as we come around Gods table, as we remember him, lets enjoy his presence together

Needy Offering

2 Samuel 21:15-22

Psalms 27:1-3 :4-5 :7-12 :13-14

1 Chronicles 18:1-2, 6

Psalms 145:16