
Psalm 27

1. Slide 1 Announce:
   A. It was said of 1 of David’s mighty men, Benaiah, he had gone down and killed a lion in the midst of a pit on a snowy day. (2 Sam.23:20) You braved the rain!
   B. Starting the Gospel of Luke Sunday :)

II. Intro:
   A. Prayer & Reflection on Scripture - What Scripture? Ps.27. What is reflection?
      In Ps.27:4 we’ll hear of David meditating in God’s temple.
      1. Slide 2 The Hebrew means, to look, to perceive with attention; direct one’s gaze towards. Our English definition means, to contemplate, think deeply or focus one's mind for a period of time, in silence.
      2. I will put each of 4 sections of Ps.27 up on screen. (set all distractions aside)

III. Slide 3 CONFIDENCE (1-3) David’s confidence in God
   A. Read 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation - so why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble?
      2 When evil people come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. 3 Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident.

   B. Prayer: The Lord is my light - Why should I be afraid? - Are you afraid of: darkness, trouble, the power of darkness, someone, something. (fear can debilitate)
      Tell the Lord what you are afraid of, in your life, right now.
      1. Reflection: The Lord is my light. [think Light over darkness]

   C. Prayer: The Lord is my salvation - so why should I be afraid? - Are you sure of your salvation? … if so thank Him for it, if not ask Him for it.
      1. Reflection: The Lord is my salvation. (deliverer, rescuer, liberator, emancipator)
D. **Prayer:** The Lord is my **fortress**, protecting me from **danger**, so why should I tremble? - **What is a deficiency** in your life? **What weakness** do you struggle with the most in your flesh?

1. **Reflection:** The Lord is my fortress/refuge/shelter/protection/safe keeping/strength.

E. If you have God’s **light**, His **salvation**, and His **strength**, then **whom** shall you fear? No one!

1. **Reflection:** God doesn’t just **give you light, salvation & strength**, He IS …

F. **Prayer:** 2 When evil people **come to devour me**, when my enemies and foes **attack me**, they will stumble and fall. 3 Though a mighty army **surrounds me**, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident.

1. **Whether your enemy comes as a sudden invasion** (by surprise) (2), or a **settled battle** (3).

   a) **Maybe:** your enemy is camped on your doorstep at home, or at your office, or even here at church. Say like David, **I will remain confident. Confident in what?** the Lord’s **Light, Salvation, & Strength**.

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**IV. Slide4 COMMUNION (4-6) David communing with God**

A. **Read 4** The one thing I ask of the Lord - the thing I seek most - is **to live** in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, **delighting** in the Lord’s perfections and **meditating** in his Temple.

5 **For he will conceal me there when troubles come; he will hide me in his sanctuary. He will place me out of reach on a high rock.**

6 **Then I will hold my head high above my enemies who surround me. At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy, singing and praising the Lord with music.**

B. **Prayer:** The one thing I **ask** of the Lord - the thing I **seek** most - is … **what?** - what’s your single focus? what is your consuming desire? **Right now make it Him!**

C. **Prayer:** to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life - Talk w/Him about what it looks like to **live w/in the veil** in perfect fellowship w/the Lord (here on earth).
1. **Reflection**: What is it to live constantly, habitually, basking in His presence. Having a sleepover at God's house night after night, until you just move in.

2. **Reflection**: delighting in the Lord’s perfections (gaze upon the beauty of the Lord).

3. **Reflection**: meditating/inquire in His Temple. To commune with the Lord about the concerns of *home*, of *business*, of *church*, & of *daily life*.

4. **Reflection**: He will conceal me there when troubles come; He will hide me in his sanctuary. He will place me out of reach, on a high rock.

D. **Communion**: invite Romulo up. [during this song: get & partake in communion]

V. Slide5 CRY (7-13) David crying to God

A. **Read** 7 Hear me as I pray/cry, O Lord. Be merciful and answer me! 8 My heart has heard You say, “Come and talk with me.” And my heart responds, “Lord, I am coming.”

9 Do not turn your back on me. Do not reject your servant in anger. You have always been my helper. Don’t leave me now; don’t abandon me, O God of my salvation! 10 Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close.

11 Teach me how to live, O Lord. Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me. 12 Do not let me fall into their hands. For they accuse me of things I’ve never done; with every breath they threaten me with violence. 13 Yet I am **confident** I will see the Lord’s goodness while I am here in the land of the living.

B. **Prayer**: 7 Hear me as I pray/cry, O Lord. Be merciful and answer me! 8 My heart has heard You say, “Come and talk with me.” And my heart responds, “Lord, I am coming.”

1. **Reflection**: Talk w/Him, about talking w/Him. (maybe, are you frustrated w/prayer, maybe it’s exciting).
C. **Prayer:** 9 Do not turn your back on me. Do not reject your servant in anger. You have always been my helper. Don’t leave me now; don’t abandon me, O God of my salvation! 10 Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close.

1. **Reflection:** on mood change in prayer, from confidence in prayer (7,8) to anxiety (9,10a) … and it seems to be normal.

D. **Prayer:** 11 Teach me how to live, O Lord. Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me. 12 Do not let me fall into their hands. For they accuse me of things I’ve never done; with every breath they threaten me with violence. 13 Yet I am confident I will see the Lord’s goodness while I am here in the land of the living. Not nec on a smooth path, or an easy path, but the right one is what matters (it could be perfectly smooth but straight uphill).

1. **Reflection:** “The Good Shepherd goes ahead of His sheep, smoothing out our tomorrows, but it is our duty to follow in His way!”

2. **Reflection:** The Story is told of an old woman who sold her wares from door to door. Whenever she came to a crossroad & sought which direction to go, she’d throw a stick into the air to see which way it pointed. One day she was observed tossing the stick several times. On being questioned, she said, “the road to the right seemed so very dreary, so I tossed the stick till it pointed left which seemed to be a much nicer way!”

   a) How often do we go to God for guidance in the same fashion?

3. **Reflection:** Yet I am confident I will see the Lord’s goodness while I am here in the land of the living. (God reserves His best medicine for our times of deepest despair)

VI. Slide6 COURAGE (14) David waiting on God

A. **Read** 14 Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the Lord.

   1. *If you run ahead of Him, or lag behind, you will be a perfect target for the enemy.* (Wiersbe)
B. Prayer: What area do you need *His help on* to be brave or courageous? Pray for the posture of *waiting* (it’s called *holding on* in *naked faith*). [be patient, it takes a *lifetime* to learn this]

1. Reflection: do you *give God time* to act in your situations?
2. Reflection: *The stops of a good man are ordered by the Lord, as well as his steps!*

   2nd, readiness for any *new command* that may come. 
   3rd, not *get sidetracked* until His command is given. 

C. Lord help us to be *brave* and *courageous* as we wait on you.