



MARCH 14, 2025

Text: PSALM 27

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?

When the wicked advance against me
to devour me,

it is my enemies and my foes
who will stumble and fall.

Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;

though war break out against me,
even then I will be confident.

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.

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.

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.

Hear my voice when I call, Lord;

be merciful to me and answer me.

My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"

Your face, Lord, I will seek.

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.
Though my father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will receive me.
Teach me your way, Lord;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.
Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
spouting malicious accusations.

I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord;
Be strong and take heart

The Devotion:

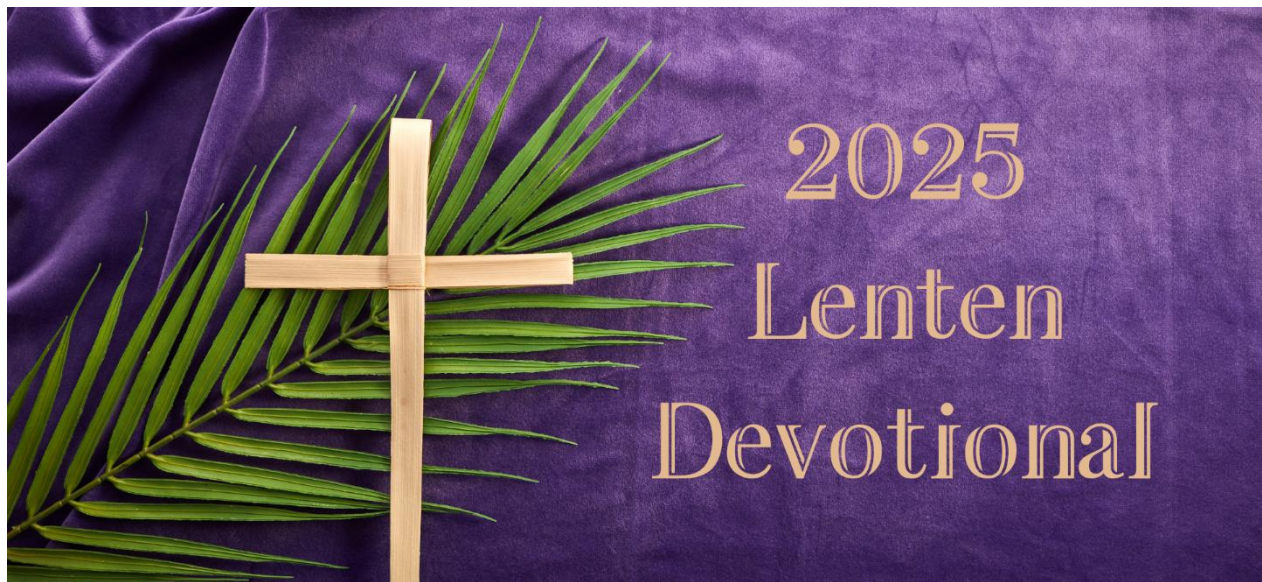
Psalm 27 teaches us about courageous trust in the Lord. It shows us where our confidence should lie and where we should seek solace in troublesome times.

Like many of the psalms, David pens these familiar words. Some scholars believe that he may have written it during the days before he became king; within the words recorded in 1 and 2 Samuel, where we encounter David as a young shepherd boy. That place where God calls him to be the King of Israel. Those chapters where we witness the danger, battles, and fugitive life that David encounters while running from King Saul. When David ascends his God-given throne, and the trials of his life do not seem to end.

Do you remember how David feared for his life? How he fell into the sin of lust and took Bathsheba as his wife; only after ordering her husband Uriah killed. And then add to that the fact that his son Absalom kills his other son Amnon. David's life is riddled with heartache and upset, but one thing always remained, and that is his heart for the God of Israel.

David sang his praise to God, and in the words of this psalm we find him sharing his courageous trust in the Lord. Words from the heart that spoke to the confidence that he carried and the claim that His God would indeed provide for His blessings and protection.

My friends Psalm 27 is rich with lessons we can learn. The first three verses stress the confidence that David had in the Lord. He begins in verse one with these words, "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?" In verse two, David is almost bragging about his enemies being defeated. He even ends verse three with the words "though war break out against me, even then will I be confident."



David's words are powerful. We may not be fighting battles like David, but we are fighting battles. Each day we fight temptation, greed, and lust. We fight to keep ourselves set apart from this world. We experience our enemies rise against us with hurtful words or deeds. But how confident do we remain? Are we confident that our God will never leave us?

David believed that no enemy would stand in God's way. Do we believe that to be true? Do we live the words of Hebrews, "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Words and an understanding that David lived by.

You see, David approached God's throne with confidence continuously seeking Him. He exclaimed his desire to commune with God in the safety of his "sacred tent." David sang, made music, and shouted for joy in the presence of our Lord. And that is something that we are still called to. To stay in scripture – to offer Him praise – to serve in His name – to keep living and learning about His love and power.

Think about it - David had spent many years fighting and running. And through it all, he never lost faith in God. He was confident that the God he served would never forsake him. In fact, he cries out in verse 10 "the Lord will receive me."

And isn't that what we too should be grabbing hold of in these days. Our God has promised to never turn away from us. No matter how bad our trials are or how hopeless we feel. God will not leave us. He is present. And just as David knew he was never alone on the battlefield or in the caves I hope we too understand that we are never alone on our battlefields.

Sure, we will question, doubt, our patience will run dry, and we will know suffering. But in those moments, do we hold fast as David did – believing that our God keeps his promises. That He is a God who will show up – that He is there in our midst. That He is our strength, knowledge and wisdom. A truth that no matter what we face, no matter how difficult it may seem right now or how divided we may be experiencing life – we cannot deny.

My friends, through David's words, we are encouraged. May we experience hope, security, and rest. May we live within the reality that our God is great, and that He – and His ways – are our light and our salvation, the source of all things good.

The Prayer:

Gracious and loving Father, You are a Father who has been with us in days past, is with us in days present and will be with us in the days of our future. You bring light into this world of darkness and hope in the midst of chaos. May our faith in You be the anchor in our lives.

Amen