

SUNDAY'S SOUL SONG Vol 1. No 17. Lent 2C. Psalm 27

“Sing the words and tunes of the *psalms* and hymns when you are together” Ephesians 5:19

Theme: Courageous Faith

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

v1. The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
whom should I dread?

v7. O LORD, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer me.

v8. Of you my heart has spoken, “Seek his face.”
It is your face, O LORD, that I seek.

v9. Hide not your face from me.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.
Do not abandon or forsake me.

v13. I believe I shall see the LORD’S goodness
in the land of the living.

v14. Wait for the LORD; be strong;
be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD!



Psalm 26/27 teaches us about courageous trust in God. This psalm clearly shows us where our confidence should lie and where we should seek solace in troublesome times. Like many of David’s psalms, scholars believe he may have written this before he became king. During this time we witness the danger, battles, his fugitive life while running from King Saul, the current king of Israel. When David becomes king, the trials of his life do not end. During David’s reign, he fears for his life, he falls into the sin of lust and takes Bathsheba as his wife, after ordering her husband Uriah killed. His son Absalom kills his other son Amnon, David is cursed by a member of Saul’s clan, and later David is deserted by his own people. David’s life is full of heartache and upset, but one thing remained, his trust in the God of Israel. In our Psalm, David shares his courageous trust in the LORD.



The first verse stresses the confidence that David had in God. He begins with the words, “**The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?**” David’s words are powerful. We may not be fighting battles like David, but we are fighting spiritual battles. Each day we fight temptation, like Jesus did in the desert. We fight to keep ourselves holy in the midst of a Godless culture. In our battles, we experience our enemies rise against us with hurtful words or deeds. But we can brag that even though the enemies come, with God’s help we can defeat them. We can be confident that our God will never leave us.

Despite the heaviness of David's situation, he was confident that God had the perfect plan for him. We can be confident too. God has a loving plan for our lives, and no enemy will stand in God's way. Hebrews 4:16 states **“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.”** David was approached God with confidence and so can we.

David had spent many years fighting and running. Through it all, he never lost faith in God. He was confident that the God he served would never forsake him. In Verse 9 David cries out for God to not turn His face from him. Our God will never leave nor forsake us or turn away from us. No matter how bad our trials are or how hopeless we feel, God will not leave us. Our situations may not change, but God will be with us. God is going to be present in our lives, even when everyone else has turned their backs on us. David knew he was never alone on the battlefield or in the places of hiding. We are never alone on our battlefields as well.

Jesus said, **“In this world you will have troubles.”** How right he was. Inevitably, we will face trials on this Earth. We will feel like we cannot handle anything else. Our patience begins to run dry and life seems hopeless. It is in these moments we can trust our God. Verse 14 speaks of **“waiting for the LORD.”** When we wait for something or someone, we are expressing our trust in that person or action. God is the only thing we can really trust in. Each time David was in a precarious situation, he knew could trust God to take care of it. God has not changed from the time of David. We worship the same trustworthy God.



All we can do is look around to see the difficulties we are living in. We are dealing with the effects of the pandemic, war in Europe, our country divided because of racism, equality issues, questions regarding the sanctity of human life and religious freedom. It is now more than ever that we need to place the words of Psalm 26/27 in our hearts. We can have confidence that if we turn to God for strength, knowledge, and wisdom, we will know what our part in the solutions is. We can be sure that God's face will never be turned away from us or our problems. The shining face of Jesus that shone upon Peter, James and John is shining on us.

In the hard times, we can focus on the joy that only comes from faith in our Lord. We can trust that He will keep us safe from our enemies. David did not dwell in his problems; he continued to praise the Lord and show confidence in God. We to can do this, even in the tough times, we can praise God because we have the confidence that God is on our side. We can go through the valley of death and come out victorious. Let David's words, encouraged us and strengthen our faith. Our God is great and wants to manifest love towards us. He is our light and our salvation, the source of all things good. May the 'transfiguration' of Jesus that we celebrate, be the day of our enlightenment, when we see clearly the sacred life we are called to live. Jesus is our brother. The chosen One. Let us listen to Him. Let us wait in love.

Utube: 'Hope for the World's Despair' (Hymn of Peace) & 'Wait for the Lord' by Taizé