

PSALM 27 – An Exuberant Declaration of Faith!

10/23/19 – ME Conf - P. Twente, www.ptwente.com 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

BE STILL MY SOUL Von Schliegel/Sibelius – *The Festival Choir*

*1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to thy God to order and provide; in every change He faithful will remain.*

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future as He has the past.

Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know His voice, who ruled them while He dwelt below.

PSALM 27 – Nothing can be learned from the title as to the time this Psalm was written, for the heading, “*A Psalm of David*,” is common to many of the Psalms. But if one may judge from the matter of the Psalm, the writer was pursued by enemies, verses 2 and 3, was shut out from the house of the Lord, verse 4, was just parting from father and mother, verse 10, and was subject to slander, verse 12. Possibly all of these meet in the time when Doeg, the Edomite, spoke against him to Saul (*1 Sam 21-22*)? It is a song of cheerful hope, **well fitted for those in trial who have learned to lean upon the Almighty arm.** The Psalm may profitably be read in a three-fold way, **as the language of David, of the Church and of the Lord Jesus.** The abundance of Scripture will thus appear the more wonderful.

PSALM 27 – The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation. A Psalm of David.

(vs. 1-3 *Sure Confidence in God*)

Psa 27:1 A Psalm of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?

- **My light** – At new birth divine light is poured as the precursor of salvation. Not that the LORD gives us light – **He is light!**
- **My Salvation** - Salvation finds us the dark, but does not leave us there! Not that the LORD gives us salvation – **He is salvation!**
- **Who shall I fear?** The powers of darkness are not to be feared, for **the LORD our Light, destroys them!** The damnation of hell is not to be dreaded by us, **for the LORD is our salvation!**
- **Of whom shall I be afraid?** *If God is for us, who can be against us?*

Psa 27:2 When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell.

- **His deliverance of us in the past experiences should be used to reassure our faith in times of trial!**
- **It is a hopeful sign when the wicked hate us - For the wicked their hatred is better than their love.**
- **David was in the grip and grasp of numerous, cruel and powerful enemies but notice his total safety and their total discomposure.**

Psa 27:3 Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war may rise against me, In this I will be confident.

- **Faith's shield will ward off the blow and faith's banners will wave despite the foe!**

(vs. 4-6 – *Love of Communion with Him*)

Psa 27:4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

- **One thing** - Let all our affection be bound up in one affection and that affection be set on heavenly things!
- **Desired of the LORD** - should be sanctified, humble, constant, submissive, fervent, all molded into one mass!
- **One thing that I will seek** – Holy desires must lead to resolute action!
- **That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life,** - For the sake of communing with the King, David wanted always to be a home-born child, living at home with his Father!
- **Behold the beauty of the LORD** – Think of that beauty! We must enter with the assembly not to be seen but to be intent upon learning more of the loving Father, more of the glorified Jesus, more of the Holy Spirit, that we may more lovingly admire and reverently adore our glorious God!
- **To inquire in His temple** – Not needed to make inquiries in heaven, but now we should sit at Jesus' feet, awakening all our faculties to learn of Him!

Psa 27:5 For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.

- **How blessed is the standing of the man whom God Himself sets on high above his foes, upon an impregnable Rock which can never be stormed!**

Psa 27:6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in

His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

- Godly men of old prayed in faith, nothing wavering and spoke of the answer to their prayer as a certainty.
- That place that he longed for his comfort, should see his thankful joy in his triumphant return.
- I will sing! Yes, I will sing praises to the LORD!

(vs. 7-12 – Praying to Him)

Psa 27:7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

- Spirituality now swings from prayer to praise, from singing to crying!
- *Have mercy on me* – Mercy is the hope of sinners and the refuge of saints!

Psa 27:8 When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

- Here we are taught that if we would have the LORD hear our voice, we must be careful to respond to His voice!
- Note the promptness of the response. When You said, then my inmost nature was moved to an obedient reply!

Psa 27:9 Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

- **Against rejection, he pleads former mercy and love.**

Psa 27:10 When my father and my mother forsake me, Then the LORD will take care of me.

- Even though those nearest and dearest to David might abandon him, his Lord would always be concerned about and care for him

Psa 27:11 Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.

- LORD, I want a good testimony before the enemy, because I know he will criticize me. I want You to watch over me, Lord, and help me not to embarrass You by what I do.

Psa 27:12 Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; For false witnesses have risen against me, And such as breathe out violence.

- Here **David was a type of Christ**; for false witnesses rose up against Him, and such as breathed out cruelty; but though He was delivered into their wicked hands, He was not delivered over to their will, for they could not prevent His exaltation.

(vs. 13-14 – Sustaining Power of Faith – Exhortation to Others)

Psa 27:13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living.

- Even in our lost world today you can see the goodness of the Lord. How wonderful He is.

Psa 27:14 Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

- There is a lot faintheartedness, or the coward's heart today. All of us have a little touch of it. How can this be cured? "*Wait on the LORD; be of good courage.*" When we do that the Lord will strengthen our hearts. He is really the great heart specialist.
- *Wait* at His door with prayer! *Wait* at His foot with humility! *Wait* at His table with service! *Wait* at His window with expectancy!

SUMMARY:

- *The Lord is my light and my salvation* - This light can never be extinguished by man; the Lord is my salvation, my safeguard, my shield, and my defense; of whom then should I be afraid?
- This psalm is characterized by strong contrasts such as lament and laud; persecution and praise; plus warfare and worship.
- In Psalm 27, the psalmist, in the presence of his Lord, engages in three conversations that help him balance the ups and downs of life.
- *Wait on the LORD! Hab 2:3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.*

AND CAN IT BE? – Charles Wesley – sung by Gaither

*And can it be that I should gain An interest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, should die for me?*

Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, should die for me!

*No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in
righteousness Divine, Bold I approach the eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ my own.*

Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, should die for me!

PRAY FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Donald Trump – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Jair Bolsonaro - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Muhammadu Buhari - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico.

**Benjamin Netanyahu – Israel; Angela Merkel – Germany; Theresa May – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea;
Moon Jae-in – South Korea.**

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL: