**Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church**

**BIBLE STUDY 11/20**

**LET’S LEARN DEEPER AND PRESS TO DO BETTER**

**ALPHA & OMEGA**

Psalm 27:1-14

**Psalm 27** has beautiful lessons we can learn from. Through David’s words, we have the opportunity to be encouraged. David doesn’t begin by complaining; he begins by reminding himself of what is true. From his words, we have the opportunity to glean and experience hope, security, and rest.

Psalm 27 is traditionally divided into two sections: verses 1–6 and 7–14. The first section **expresses confidence in God's power and protection**, while the second section shifts in tone with **a plea for God's mercy**.

Verses 1-3 – David asserts his confidence in God alone

Verses 4-6 – David’s desire to be completely fixed on and focused on God

Verses 7-12 – David’s fear brings him to a place of prayer

Verses 13-14 – David reaffirms his faith in God and provides some instructions.

**SERMONIC POINTS:**

**1 NOT ALL DELIVERANCE COMES QUICKLY**

**2 STAY FOCUSED IN A DISTRACTING WORLD**

**3 THIS AIN’T HEAVEN…**

The testimony of David rests where David is living and has lived.

**THIS EMPHASIZES THE POINT OF OUR PERSPECTIVE TONIGHT.**

Let me read v1 this way: “The Lord is light and salvation...The Lord is a stronghold...of whom shall I be afraid?”

**Now, I’ve just given you bad theology because I’ve left out a word**.

David says, “The Lord is **my** light…The Lord is **my** salvation…The Lord is **my** stronghold.” Now, here’s what theology should do for you: theology, properly handled, should not just define who God is (**listen carefully**), but should redefine who you are as a child of God. The statements David makes, “The Lord is my light and my salvation and my stronghold,” are not just God defining statements–they are statements of **David’s identity** as a child of God.

**MAKE SURE YOUR TESTIMONY IDENTIFIES THE TRUTH OF  YOUR CONFIDENCE IN GOD.**

* **CONFIDENT TRUST IN TIME OF DANGER (27:1-6)**
  + **CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD (1-3)**
    1. The courage of David exists because:
       - When the LORD is his light and salvation
       - When the LORD is the strength of his life whom shall he fear.
    2. The LORD's help in the past
       - When the wicked, his enemies and foes came against him
       - They stumbled and fell
    3. The LORD's help favors him for the future
       - Though encamped by an army in time of war
       - His heart will not fear, it remains confident in the LORD

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* + **COMMUNION WITH GOD (4-6)**
    1. The one thing he desires of the LORD:
       - To dwell in His house all his life
       - To behold His beauty, and inquire in His temple
    2. The reason for David's fervent desire
       - In time of trouble the LORD will hide him
         1. In His pavilion
         2. In the secret place of His tabernacle
       - The LORD will set him high upon a rock
    3. His response to being lifted high above his enemies
       - To offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle
       - To sing praises to the LORD

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* **ANXIOUS PRAYER IN TIME OF DANGER (27:7-12)**
  + **PLEA FOR MERCY (7-10)**
    1. David's cry to the LORD was:
       - To hear when he cries with his voice
       - To have mercy and answer him
       - For his heart responded to the LORD saying "Seek My face"
    2. David's plea to the LORD
       - Do not hide His face from him
       - Do not turn His servant away in anger, for He has been his help
       - Do not leave or forsake him, for He is the God of his salvation
    3. David's hope in the LORD
       - When forsaken by his parents
       - The LORD will take care of him
  + **PLEA FOR DELIVERANCE (11-12)**
    1. David's request for guidance from the LORD
       - To teach him His way
       - To lead him in a smooth path, because of his enemies
    2. David's reason for asking the LORD for deliverance from his adversaries
       - For false witnesses have risen against him
       - Such as breathe out violence

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* **REASSURING SELF IN TIME OF DANGER (27:13-14)**
  + **NEED FOR FAITH IN THE LORD (13)**
    1. He would have lost heart unless he believed
    2. That he would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living
  + **NEED TO WAIT ON THE LORD (14)**
    1. To be of good courage
    2. He shall strengthen your heart