

What to Do When Life Is A Struggle



- What are the biggest struggles you are facing in life?

Psalm 27 is Hebrew poetry. It is filled with symbolic expressions. Psalm 27 is also a picture of David's heart. He shared about his struggles and the solutions he discovered. Although written centuries ago, we discover that his problems are not unlike ours today. Furthermore, the solutions he discovered are obtainable for us, too.

David may have written Psalm 27 while on the run from King Saul who was jealous of David and was seeking to kill him. David had to live in caves and many different desolate places. Yet, he found God wherever he was. Bible teacher, Warren Wiersbe, wrote, "David was living in the wilderness of Judea, away from the sanctuary of the Lord, but he was still able to enter into fellowship with his God..." *The Transformation Study Bible*, 27:5-6

We can divide our study of Psalm 27 into two parts: 1. David's Struggles. 2. David's Solutions.

Central Lesson:
We can find God even when life is a wilderness.

I. David's Struggles

- **Fear** (1, 3).
"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**?" "³ Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be **afraid**..."
- **Danger** (1).
"¹...The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from **danger**, so why should I tremble?"
- **The ATTACK** of evil people (2, 3).
"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."
- **Troubles** (5).
"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."
- **Feeling DISTANT** from God (8-10).
"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!"

- **Confusion about how to LIVE** right (11).
"¹¹ **Teach me how to live**, O Lord. Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me."
- **Misrepresentation of his CHARACTER & threats** (12).
"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."

II. David's Solutions

Warren Wiersbe, wrote, "The secret of David's public confidence was his private obedience: He took time to fellowship with the Lord and get directions from him. David knew that the most important part of his life was the part that only God could see, and this was one priority he would not negotiate." *The Transformation Study Bible*, 27:4

- **Trust God for PROTECTION** (1).
"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?"
- **RENOUNCE** fear (3).
"³ Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart **will not be afraid**. Even if I am attacked, **I will remain confident**."
- **Choose CONFIDENCE** in God (3, 13).
"¹³ Yet **I am confident** I will see the Lord's goodness while I am here in the land of the living."
- **Seek CLOSER** fellowship with God (4).
"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**."
- **Prayer** (7).
"Hear me as **I pray**, O Lord. Be merciful and answer me!"
- **Maintain a listening HEART** to God's whispers (8).
"⁸ **My heart has heard you say**, 'Come and talk with me.' And **my heart responds**, 'Lord, I am coming.'"
- **Stay TEACHABLE** (11).
"**Teach me how to live**, O Lord. Lead me along the right path..."

Central Lesson:
We can find God even when life is a wilderness.

- ▶ Accept Christ as your Savior. ▶ As a Christian, dedicate your life to Christ.
- ▶ Invite someone to next Sunday's study. ▶ Attend a small group. ▶ Read the Bible this week & journal meaningful verses. ▶ Pray for friends that need Jesus.