

**Psalm 27**  
**06-02-19 PM**

The substance of Psalm 27 is a poem in which David looks to God for deliverance. He is not trusting his own devices, but need the Lord's deliverance. David sees God's holiness as his hope; he believes that his preservation will be found by dwelling in the holiness (sanctuary) of God.

One key part of this Psalms is the command and reply: *When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, O LORD, I shall seek."* (Ps 27:8). The Hebrew word for face, as the English word, reflects many different ideas. It is mainly a description of the presence of God. David will seek after God with all of His heart.

Perhaps most pressing is the closing statement by David: *"I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD"* Psalm 27:13-14.

Being filled with despair is a terrible affliction that we can all suffer from time to time. Despair is the complete loss or absence of hope. Christians can have it; Paul wanted disciples to resist despair as the only people who really should despair are the lost (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

David had many reasons for despair. His friends betraying him (Ahithophel, Saul); his parents betraying him in this Psalm; later, his son trying to murder him (Absalom); seeing good people murdered (the priests); losing his best friend (Jonathan); his own failures in life and his home.

David believed that God would still help; he said *"I would see the goodness of the LORD"*. This was not a future promise, but one David believed he would see it in this life, as he said *"In the land of the living"*. David wanted us to know that there is hope, and that we must *"wait for the LORD"*. David wanted us to learn to have strength when he added *"be strong and let your heart take courage"*.

It is HARD to wait! Consider some of the things we are told to pray for but we must still wait for God to provide: Recovery in health— James 5:14; Spiritual recovery in others – I John 5:16; The right person in our life – Genesis 2:18; The right job – II Thessalonians 3:12; Spiritual growth – II Peter 1:5-11.

Why does God make us wait? Perhaps we benefit from patience. A number of times we are told in Scripture that without patience, we will not make it to heaven (Hebrews 6:12; James 1:4; Romans 5:3-4). Simply stated, we need to learn patience, because we WILL have to wait on the Lord.

Perhaps God makes us wait because we need to learn value. We all know the problem of giving a teenager a brand new car as soon as they are able to drive. It fails to teach them the importance of the value of things. Jesus taught us that the kingdom of heaven is a pearl of great price that we ought to sacrifice all to have; if we do not learn its value by waiting on His time, how will we know to treasure it? Our great reward is cherished with cost.

Perhaps we wait because we are not ready. Moses attempted to lead Israel when he was 40 years old and failed (Acts 7:23-25). Neither Israel nor Moses were yet ready. Perhaps other things are not ready as well. Jesus had to wait to preach until He was 30 (Luke 3:23) to allow other things (i.e. John the Baptist, Luke 1:17) to get ready. Such is the case as to why God waited in the days of Noah or why God waits today to return (1 Peter 3:20, 2 Peter 3:8-9). Even if we're ready, other things are not.