



September 27, 2011 - Psalm 27:1

Hi Everyone,

We want to welcome many who are joining in for the fourth quarter of our Psalms project. We are happy to have you along for the journey. In the third quarter, a theme of "trusting God" was evident as we moved through Psalm 56. Today we embark on a new journey of Psalm 27. As always, I encourage you to read it through in its entirety before you begin memorizing. As you do, you will once again see a theme of "trusting God," but you will also see a new theme emerge that builds upon it. It is the theme of "waiting upon the Lord." You will only see this wording "wait upon the Lord" in the last verse of Psalm 27; but make no mistake, its essence is there throughout. When we see the word "wait" we tend to think of the passing of time, but this word "wait" holds much more. The idea of "waiting upon the Lord" is common in scripture and it comes from the Hebrew word "qavah" which in simple terms means to look up with expectant hope! So... keep that in mind as you set to memorizing this great chapter. I believe the Lord has much to reveal to us. Let's get started!

In the NASB, Psalm 27:1 reads:

**"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?"**

As we have seen so often, David is making declarations about the Lord and His influence upon his living. He begins Psalm 27 with strong words of commitment, **"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?"** David was walking in some dark times, we know that. His very life was threatened... and not just by enemies, but by those who had at one time been his closest friends. Rejection and danger can certainly create a darkness and need for salvation. David is looking up with expectant hope knowing that God alone is the only One who saves and brings light. He is the only One in charge and able to accomplish. David asserts that there is no reason to fear anyone else when he truly considers his God.

So... lesson # 1 - The Lord alone is the only One to be esteemed as powerful in our lives!

But, David also says, "**The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?**" "**Dread**" is the idea of actually being afraid. It manifests itself in us as it seeps in and steals our faith and hope, turning our eyes downward instead of upward. "**Dread**" has to do with feeling extremely frightened or worried about something that may happen in the future. It is a feeling of great apprehension that comes as we allow our minds to function in places other than faith. Simply put, it is the entertaining of all the negatives that could happen, getting ourselves in such a funk as we worry and fret over what may come to be; "**dreading**" the possibility of hurt, pain, annoyances and disappointment so much that we start to create our own personal defense systems in order to provide our own protection.

We do that, don't we? But what does David say? "**The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?**" In making his first statement, he knows that no one else is even able to stand next to the power of God, so then David is able to take his trust to a whole new level. Yes, he is going to esteem God as the most powerful of all, fearing Him only. That declaration will then now move him to letting go of "**dread**" as well. He doesn't need to worry over all that may be, so he doesn't need to set up defenses for himself against what may or may not come. We don't either!

So... lesson #2 - Fearing (highly esteeming) God only, there is no need to "**dread**." God is the defense of our lives.

Waiting upon the Lord is looking up to Him with expectant hope... we can do this because He is our light, our salvation and the true defense of our life! No need to fear another, no need for dread. Wait upon the Lord!



If you are just joining us in this memorization project...welcome! The weekly devotions for the previous verses are available on our website by clicking on "A Year of Psalms" on the home page.

www.establishedfootsteps.com

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to establishedfootsteps@hotmail.com by establishedfootsteps@hotmail.com | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Established Footsteps Inc | 598 Minuteman Dr | Newport News | VA | 23602