



November 1, 2011 - Psalm 27:6

Hi Everyone,

I hope you are having a great week. As I realized a couple of days ago that we are on week 44 of this project, it really hit me how this year is winding down. It is sweet to know we have been memorizing together for 44 weeks... awesome! However, it also made me wonder how well I actually knew all 44 verses from the previous weeks. Hence I decided to review again, and in doing so realized I needed to review some more! So this week has been good; lots of review and challenge to look up to the Lord and secure these Psalms in my heart. Our verse this week will once again reinforce how much benefit there is for us in doing that. Let's take a look.

In the NASB, Psalm 27:6 reads:

**"And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me;
and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord."**

The first two words of this verse, "**And now**" really caught my attention. Let me explain why by considering the contexts in which we often hear them.

First - Can't you just hear someone rambling on about a bunch of negative circumstances in her life and then saying, "**And now...**" only to continue on with more negative conditions that follow as a result?

Second - Can't you just hear an introduction to something wonderful? Think of an announcer who introduces someone or something beginning with the words, "**And now!**"

We all have struggles in life. In Psalm 27, David has made it clear that he is not exempt. He begins in verse 1 with a strong indication of his need for salvation and light. Verse 2 continues on as he makes us aware there are enemies and evildoers in his path. Verse 3 reveals armies warring against him. These are real troubles. But, verse 4 tells us where David turns his eyes... upward, longing to be in the presence of the Lord. As he does this, verse 5 identifies that David

found a true refuge and hiding place in God alone. So... by the time he gets to verse 6, we hear David say, "**And now...**" I just have to know he isn't saying these words with a negative tone, but with one of wonder, awe, praise and thanksgiving!

He says, "**And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me.**" In other words, in this great place of God's presence, God is going to give His perspective so David can see high above all these challenges. See often, we pour out our troubles and then say, "**And now...**" and all that comes tumbling out of our mouths is a description of the horrible circumstances we can see right in front of us. But, how good when we have turned our eyes upward, allowing God to hide us in His tent. In that tent, He places us up on a rock (verse 5) and we can see His view, far above it all. Then, we can like David use those two words, "**And now...**" as an introduction to a praise filled report.

What usually happens when someone says the words, "**And now...**" as an introduction to something exciting? Usually the listening crowd roars with approval and applause. David does the same. See, after David finds himself standing on the Rock, seeing high above the fear, darkness, enemies, evildoers and warring armies... he says, "**and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.**" Definite approval. Definite praise. Definite shouts of joy coming from David's mouth.

Waiting upon the Lord is looking up to Him with expectant hope. Two little words begin our verse this week, but they seem power packed with a message for me. As I turn my eyes upward to the Lord, allowing Him to hide me in His tent, focused on His Truth, these words, "**And now...**" can introduce praise from my mouth. Oh Lord, let it be so in my life and in the lives of all who are memorizing your Truth together. Let's try it this week and see what a good report we can give of God's victory in our lives!



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