



I was recently preparing a teaching for a Sunday morning service that I do. As I was seeking the Lord on what He would like for me to bring forth to the people, He brought my attention to one of my most favorite parts of scripture as found in the Old Testament. It was Psalm 27.

Particularly, it was Psalm 27:4 where David declares, *“One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.”* We all know of this scripture. It is nothing new to us. However, as I was reading it, it brought me back to the time when I first “really” read it.

If we take a look at this scripture we see that it says multiple things. However, we first need to review what David writes prior to this scripture as found in Psalm 27:1-3. If we look at where David begins we see that he declares a very powerful opening statement. He starts off with saying that, *“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”* That is a very powerful statement.

As believers in Jesus, today, we must never ever forget that very fact. It is *“the LORD who is my light AND my salvation.”* What did David mean by that? How does that relate to me, today? Well, let’s take a look at it.

David starts off immediately declaring that this is all about the LORD. That word “LORD,” when it is all capitalized like that, is referring to Yahweh – the Father. David was declaring and speaking of his God – Yahweh. It was and is Yahweh who was and who is, his “light.” It was and is, Yahweh who was and is, his salvation. This may seem mundane to us. However, this is so very vital for each of us to grasp. What did David mean by referring to God in this way?

When David declares that Yahweh is his “light” he is referring to God being the one who will lead and guide him through both his good times and his difficult times. It will be God’s “light,” His wisdom, His Word, His ways, that would get David through every situation in his life – the easy times and the difficult times. The key here is to remember that David wrote this Psalm when he really needed God. He was calling out to Him. He was searching and needed answers to the difficulty he was in.

We know that David was also just like us. Yes, he would cry out to God when he needed help. However, as we read David's life we see that many times, David made many of his own decisions and those decisions were very much – let's just say - incorrect ones.

In the early stages of David's ministry, he was continually crying out to God to help him. When he did, God answered and helped him. Unfortunately, there were times when he went on his own thoughts and it got him into trouble. Thankfully, God was there to help him, again and again, to get out of those times when David made his own bad decisions and choices.

But...David learned. In this Psalm we see that David had learned to cry out to the Lord. In Psalm 27:2-3 we see that David had grown to realize that the source of his victories was his God. We read as David states in this psalm, God would cause his enemies to stumble and fall which allowed him to be victorious. He grasped and learned the fact that when the difficult times came, he should never be fearful, for God would always be there to see him through.

David became confident in that fact. He had total confidence in his God. In verse 3, David declares, "...in this will I be confident." That word "confident" is the Hebrew word, *bāṭaḥ*, which means to be bold, to be secure and to place your total trust in someone – that someone was his God!!!

That is why David then states, with total confidence, Psalm 27:4, "*One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.*" Let's take a look at this scripture.

We see that David starts off with the words, "*One thing I have desired of the Lord...*" The "one thing" David asked of the Lord refers to the foremost ambition of his life, that which was of the utmost importance to him. David's "one thing" was **to know God** through an intimate, lifelong relationship with Him. That was the desire of David's heart. Hmmm.... Is that our desire? To truly know our God. To truly know who He really is – His holiness, His majesty, His awesomeness, His love for each of us and everything else of which our God truly is!!!

David says that he will seek after that. Wow!!! Is that the attitude of my heart??? Is that the “**one thing**” that I desire? Well, as a child of the Living God, it should be!!! Yes, I am saved. Yes, I have a relationship with my God. But...am I continually seeking for more and more of my God and His relationship?

Everyone knows that a true relationship is one that is continually growing. We continually learn more about the one who we truly love. That is what makes the relationship grow. It makes the relationship even more exciting for us. We must never come to the place where I am satisfied with my relationship with the Lord. Yes, I love Him, but... there is always more that I can find out about Him.

There is always more in experiencing God's love for me. There is more...and more...and more. My God is so vast and He is so very great and awesome!!! I simply need to seek after Him more and more. When I do, He will reveal Himself to me more and more. That was the key to David's relationship with his God.

David then writes that he desires “...*to dwell in the house of the LORD...*” This is where we, through Jesus differ from David. Through Jesus, we are now joint heirs to the heavenly throne. Our God now dwells within us through His Holy Spirit and we are now able to “dwell” in God's “dwelling place,” His very presence, forever.

David could not ever have in his lifetime what we can now have during our lives as we are on this earth. We also have that relationship after this life as we will be with Him for eternity. We can dwell in the all the blessings of God's house now, as His child. And, one day, we will actually dwell in the house of the Lord, the New Jerusalem. David had to wait until Jesus did what He did on the cross and then rose from the dead. However, we do not need to wait because of what Jesus did for us 2000 years ago.

David then continues to write that he desires “...*to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.*” Again, David could not do this fully. Yes, he was crying out for it, but he could never fully experience it. However, again through Jesus, the true believer can and will experience this in their lifetime and then, even in a greater way, when we are with Him in eternity.

The question for each of us to consider and to meditate on is this, Do we have this kind of a heart that David had? David could never fully experience the answer to his request to the Lord. However, through Jesus, each of us can and are now able to.

The question for each of us is this, Do we really want to seek after, dwell in His house and behold the beauty of the LORD? Do we really want to ask Him to reveal Himself and to tell us more and more about Himself? Or... are we satisfied with just what we know about who we are in Christ and who we are with our God? Hmmm..... There is so much more!!!

The correct answer to that question should be that we are never to be just satisfied with our relationship with God, the Father and with Jesus through the Holy Spirit. We should be very thankful and know that we are saved and that we do not need to earn our salvation. However, that does not mean that we should place that relationship and the desire to increase in that relationship with our God on the “back burner” of our lives.

Rather, we should be at that place in our lives where David was and as he stated. It was the “**one thing**” that he desired most in his life. But... are we at that place in our lives where David ended up later on in his relationship with His God. Have we lost that zeal for wanting to know more and more of and about our God.

As we read in David’s life and in his later years, after He got all the materials together for his son Solomon to build the Temple, we read that he got lazy in that relationship with God. We know that earlier in his life that he sinned with Bathsheba. He did repent but he lost the son that was born. However, in his later years, he began to wane in his zeal for his God. Oh, he did love his God but it kind of wandered and he went a little astray from his original relationship with his God. Let’s face it, David was a man and he was never perfect.

The key for us is **to learn from that**. We must **continually** be seeking after our God – all the days of our life. Not just say it but actually live it out. That relationship with God must always be in the “growing stage.” We must continually to desire, seek after and to inquire more and more of our God. We must never get “satisfied” with our relationship. God doesn’t think that way. He desire to give to you, and to pour into you, more and more of who He is.

I am not just talking about doing more of the things of God. That is good. But rather, I am referring to you increasing your relationship with your God. Psalm 27:11 tells us, "*Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.*" This is key to a true relationship with our God. We need to simply ask our God to continually "teach us" – teach us **His way**. Notice, it doesn't say teach us your "ways." David simply writes that he wants God to teach him His "way."

What this literally means is that David is asking God to teach him that one road that leads to the very heart of his God. There is only one way. That way, we know today, is Jesus. David did not know that at that time. However, He wanted to know the "one way" that leads to a true relationship with His God. The answer came 2000 years later. The answer was Jesus.

David pleads with God to tell him and lead him on that "plain" path that would bring him to a true relationship with his God. We know that the "plain" path, the only path, that leads to God is Jesus. Oh, how truly blessed we are. We do not need to plead with God to teach us that plain path to Him any longer. He very clearly has shown us the way to Him and that way is Jesus. Thank you Father, God!!!

David then ends his psalm with these words found in verse 14 which state, "*Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.*" To "wait" on the Lord means to expect Him to answer the desires of your heart for more of Him and to expect your God to pour Himself out to you. We simply need to be of "good courage" for He will strengthen us. We get our strength in and through our God.

We all must rely on our God, instead of relying on our own strength. If we are weak, it is because we are not waiting on or seeking after the Lord. We must wait, rely on and put our total trust in the Lord. In Isaiah 55:8,9, God tells us point blank, "*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.*"

In Joel 3:10 it tells us, "*...let the weak say, I am strong.*" We are only strong if we truly wait and allow God to be God. Sometimes we take over and try to "help out God." We must know, understand and grasp, that God doesn't need any help from us. He is more than capable.

Many of God's promises may seem to be a long time in coming. We must be under the total understanding that God's timing is perfect. If God says it and He promises it, **it shall come to pass – His way and in His time.**

God told Abraham when he was 86 that he was going to have a son. It seemed impossible. Abraham and Sarah made other plans. The world is still reaping the negative affects of their mistake of having another woman (Hagar) have a son (Ishmael) with Abraham. (ie. the Israeli's and the Arabs.) God was going to bring His promise to Abraham 12 years later. But...they couldn't "*wait on the Lord.*" They did it their way. It didn't work out too good for them or the world. God's timing is perfect. Again, we must decide to **wait on the Lord!!!**

In Psalm 27:14, David tells himself and all of God's people in this hour to "*Wait on the Lord...*" He tells us in this one scripture, two times, to "*wait on the Lord.*" Why? It is because God will then strengthen our heart. We must allow God to strengthen us and not try to do it on our own. We will fail. Only God knows what we need and when we need it.

David then finishes this psalm as he writes again, "*...wait, I say, on the LORD.*" He writes it as if he is begging and imploring both, himself **and** the reader, you and I, to do this. Will we listen!!! Will each of us "**wait on the Lord.**"