

## No Fear In The New Year

(Psalm 27)

A. **We all** want to begin a new year in anticipation of joy & hope: conversions, growth, & the return of Christ.

1. The hope is that our circumstances will be better in the coming year than they are today.
2. However, 2008 saw many terrible events & tragedies on the earth.
3. So if experience is any teacher, in 2009 there will be some sorrow mixed with joy.

B. **Christians are** the best-equipped people in the world for what may happen in the future.

1. But we have to admit there's an element of fear as we think about the future.

2. Isn't it interesting that when Adam sinned he said to God, "I was afraid, so I hid myself"?

[As soon as sin entered the world, fear came along with it.

And as long as we are in this world we can't escape it, but we can learn how to deal with it.]

C. **There are** at least three characteristics to our fears.

1. Uncertain About The Future.
2. Guilty About The Past.
3. Inadequate For The Present.

[David had some helpful things to say about fear, which will enable us to face this year without that overwhelming sense of fear of what may happen.]

I. I WILL BE CONFIDENT IN THE LORD (27:1-3)

A. **Confident** In The LORD For Who He Is (1)

1. “The LORD is my light” (David).

- a. Light gives clarity of vision to the darkness of doubt & uncertainty.
- b. What are your fears? The word of Christ will allay them (Jn 8:12; 12:46).

2. “The LORD is...my salvation” (David)

- a. One can only speak of salvation when he understands his need of for it.
- b. God’s word reminds us of our need for salvation from sin (Acts 16:30; Eph 2:1-3).

3. “The LORD is the strength of my life” (David)

- a. Here is a man who understands his inadequacy & powerlessness apart from the LORD.
- b. The power behind our faith is the revelation of the Holy Sp. (Eph 3:14-20).

B. **Confident** In The LORD For What He Has Done (2)

1. David had been delivered by God on many different occasions.

- a. Saul with his superior army could never catch David, because God was with him.

2. Do we keep a diary (a mental record) of the help God has been to us?

### C. **Confident** In The LORD For What He Will Do (3)

1. David's confidence was in the LORD who held the future in His hands.
2. We often thank God for what He has done for us, but rarely do we express our confidence that He will help us in the future.

[But if our confidence is in the Lord then our fears about the future will fade into nothing more than a minor mental distraction.

And if I'm going to have fears, those are the kind of fears I want.]

## II. I WILL SEEK THE LORD (4-6)

### A. **Seek** His Presence (4)

1. David was consumed with the desire to be in God's presence.
2. When we are struggling with fear, doubt & discouragement the worst thing we can do is be alone.
  - a. We need to dwell with God & His people (His house).
  - b. We need to inquire of God (His temple of worship & learning).

### B. **Seek** His Protection (5-6)

1. David sought the presence of the Lord knowing that in Him there was protection.
2. We need to seek refuge of God (His pavilion & tabernacle).

3. We need to let Him set us high upon a rock.
4. Notice that David didn't emphasize the causes of his fear; rather, he expressed his faith in the One Who would protect him from his fears—which, in effect, dissipated the fears.

[If we will seek the Lord's presence & protection then fear will never be a major factor in our lives; fear will not impair our spiritual vision nor impede our walk.]

### III. I WILL PRAY TO THE LORD (7-12)

A. David goes from talking about God, to talking to God.

1. Even though David had expressed so much confidence in the LORD, he was still on the edge of feeling abandoned.
2. But he overcame that feeling of uncertainty by saying, "Teach me Your way, O LORD."

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This is the most touching statement in the psalm: David's hand is in God's hand, & David is saying, "Lord, don't leave me; & tell me again what I am supposed to learn from this episode in my life? Help me learn from my sins."

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3. Jesus did not sin, but he offered a similar prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before His arrest, & also during His crucifixion (Psa 22:19-21; Matt 26:39; Heb 5:8)

[To overcome his fears, David placed his confidence in the LORD, he sought the LORD, he prayed to the LORD, & finally he waited....]

### IV. I WILL WAIT ON THE LORD (13-14)

A. David understood something very important to one's ability to overcoming fear.

1. Just because his confidence was in the LORD, & just because he was seeking Him & praying to Him—this didn't make the situation causing his fear to go away immediately.

2. He had to “wait” to once again see “the goodness of the LORD”.

3. Fears exist in this life because of sin, but the goodness of God will triumph.

“Let not your heart be troubled  
you believe in God, believe also in Me  
In My Father’s house are many mansions ...  
I go to prepare a place for you  
AND ...

I will come again & receive you to Myself  
that where I am, there you may be also” (Jn 14:1-3).

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**Matt 7:11** – If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, *how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!*

**Jas 1:17** – *Every good gift & every perfect gift is from above, & comes down from the Father of lights*, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Rom 8:26-39

**Song:** How good is the God we adore, Our faithful, unchangeable Friend;  
Whose love is as great as His power & knows neither measure nor end.

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[David knew that his fears would pass & finally be engulfed by the goodness of the LORD.]

## CLOSING

- A. **FEAR** is something that can easily master us, but David shows us precisely how to overcome it.