

# How Do We Root Our Hope in the Lord?

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Psalm 27 ▪ Sunday, September 15, 2024 ▪ Ryan Wildauer

\_\_\_\_\_ **the biblical offer of hope as our** \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 1)

**Hold fast to the LORD with** \_\_\_\_\_ **confidence.** (vs. 3)

**Seek the** \_\_\_\_\_ **of the LORD.** (vs. 4)

**Offer your** \_\_\_\_\_ **to the LORD.** (vs. 6)

**Fervently pursue** \_\_\_\_\_ **with God.** (vs. 8)

**Follow God's path of** \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 11)

**Wait** \_\_\_\_\_ **for the LORD.** (vs. 13-14)

## ***Psalm 27***

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<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me  
to eat up my flesh,  
my adversaries and foes,  
it is they who stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
though war arise against me,  
yet I will be confident.

<sup>4</sup> One thing have I asked 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 gaze upon the beauty of the LORD  
and to inquire in his temple.

<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
he will lift me high upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup> And now my head shall be lifted up  
above my enemies all around me,  
and I will offer in his tent  
sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
be gracious to me and answer me!

<sup>8</sup> You have said, "Seek my face."  
My heart says to you,  
"Your face, LORD, do I seek."

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me.  
Turn not your servant away in anger,  
O you who have been my help.  
Cast me not off; forsake me not,  
O God of my salvation!

<sup>10</sup> For my father and my mother have forsaken me,  
but the LORD will take me in.

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD,  
and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.

<sup>12</sup> Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they breathe out violence.

<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall look upon the goodness  
of the LORD  
in the land of the living!

<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD;  
be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD! (ESV)

### ***Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions***

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**Open:** How do you determine someone or something can be trusted?

**Read & Discuss:** Psalm 27

1. What scriptural truths do the three metaphors used in verse 1 bring to mind? These characteristics of God overruled David's reasons for fear. What aspects of God's character enable you to overcome fear?
2. What types of trouble does David imagine facing in verses 2-3? What sorts of troubles or trials threaten to diminish your hope in life? How would you describe David's foundation for the confidence being expressed in verse 3? To what degree are you able to share David's confidence?
3. Since the literal temple had not yet been built during David's lifetime, how would you rephrase David's desire expressed in verse 4? Since we, like David, cannot literally "dwell in the house of the LORD" or "inquire in his temple," how would we pursue these values in our lives?
4. According to your understanding of the biblical narrative of David's life what were some real experiences in David's life which match the metaphorical descriptions of protection found in verse 5? How should we translate these into biblically faithful expectations for our experience?
5. Verse 6 speaks of David's plans to praise God. What can you anticipate God doing in your life that would give you reason to praise him? What forms could that praise take? How might planning our times of praise be beneficial to cultivating our hope in the Lord?
6. In verses 7-9, we see a change in tone from the previous verses. What might have caused David to do this? What might cause us to do this? How do we fight for confidence and joy when our circumstances leave us feeling discouraged?
7. As David concludes this psalm in verses 11-14, how do you see him expressing steadfast hope and trust in God? What are some promises of God that you could memorize to keep your hope in God focused in the midst of difficult circumstances?

**Apply:** Looking back over this psalm, what are the things David does to help him root his hope in God? What are some ways you could cultivate a more deeply rooted hope in the Lord?

**Pray:** Pray that God will help us to better build our hope and trust in Him—especially in times of trouble.