

The Stronghold of my Life

Psalm 27

What gives each of people and things of this world their power or “_____”?

Psalm 27

1-3: The Lord is the _____ of my life

Many different words for what _____ me
Wicked, enemies, foes, army, war, wild animals
Poetry: refers to whatever makes me _____

Irony:

God is so great that my enemies who try to trip me are the ones who _____ and _____

God protects in the _____ cases

So God protects me from _____ things too

4-6: Hope and joy are found in the _____ of God

Being with God is both a _____ and a _____
Rather than hoping in the _____ of trouble

Multiple words for _____ of blessing

It is not a physical location but a place of the _____

“_____ upon the beauty of the Lord”

to experience, rejoice in, and be transformed by the _____ of God

An intentional and determined _____ of the soul

7-12: “_____ my voice when I call, Lord”

Active _____ of God’s presence

Call out, seeking His face (_____ connection)

Request: _____ me, lead me

Commitment to take _____ in obedience

_____ in God’s compassion and care

Even beyond the compassion and care from _____

13-14: “_____ for the Lord, be strong and take heart”

Confidence:

See, experience, _____ in God’s goodness in this life

Fully experience God’s goodness in life after _____

Wait= _____ in

Be strong and take heart= _____ obey

A command to _____ heart

And then to the hearts of _____

The Big Idea:

**The LORD is the matchless _____ of our lives
no matter what _____ or _____ we face**

Romans 8:31-39

Application

_____ - _____ the world: God alone is God over all

God is the only and true _____, light, salvation, ...

No matter what _____ we face

Rather than _____ or human discoveries or medicines or techniques or willpower [or the lack of them]

God calls us to live in _____ AND _____

What is _____ your head, heart, and hands?

The same actions can be _____ for one (from fear)

and _____ for another (from wisdom and faith)

_____ God! “Your face, Lord, I will seek.”

_____ God

_____, genuinely and fervently

_____ on His beauty, glory, power, not on the trouble

Overflow with _____ and praise to God

→ Those who _____ God find Him

_____ God in our head, heart, and hands

Obey / take _____: boldness, perseverance

To _____ and bless, rather than meditate on _____

To put the _____ of others before our own _____

To take compassionate _____ for those in trouble

Reflection

- What are you tempted to view as your “life force” or your stronghold, especially when you are in trouble? Sometimes our deepest hopes are clearest in what we have (our strengths or resources), and sometimes they are clearest to us in what we lack (our needs or limitations).
- What practices help you look intently at God? What new step (or renewed step) will you take this week to look more intently at God?
- What steps will you take this week to live boldly for God? Who might be able to help you take that action, whether through prayer or encouragement or a commitment to take that action together?