

WAVERING FAITH

Psalm 27

**This psalm provides insights about and instructions
for overcoming wavering faith.**

I. A THANKFUL CHORUS (1-6)

A. MY STRONGHOLD (1-3)

1. The Lord's characteristics (1)
2. The enemies demise (2)
3. The confidence within me (3)

B. MY SATISFACTION (4-5)

1. Dwelling in God's House (4a)
2. Beholding the Lord's beauty (4b)
3. Meditating in God's temple (4c)
4. Protected by His care (5)

C. MY SONG (6)

1. Successful in battle
2. Shouts of joy > Cheers for God!
3. Hymns of praise

II. A FRETFUL CRY (7-12)

A. A DRASTIC CHANGE

1. The language and scene quickly change from assurance to anxiety
 - There is suddenly a dejected and desperate tone
2. Examples of similar circumstances
 - a. Elijah after Mount Carmel - I Kings 18-19
 - b. David with Absalom's revolt - II Sam. 12-19
 - c. David being threatened by Saul - I Sam. 19:8-12

B. A PASSIONATE PRAYER

1. Hear me! (7)
 - I'm anguished, please answer
2. Acknowledge me! (8)
 - I've made it my habit to seek You

3. Help me! (9)
 - a. Do not hide: A fear of not finding God
 - b. Do not turn away: A fear of no fellowship with God
 - c. Do not abandon: A fear of God fleeing after He was found and began to fellowship
4. Carry me! (10)
 - a. The situation: Forsaken by parents - See I Sam. 22:3-4
 - b. The trust: God will cradle me
5. Lead me! (11)
 - Provide directions as I flee from my foes
6. Protect me! (12)
 - a. David's paranoia: A fear of being betrayed by God
 - b. David's adversaries: Violent liars (see I Sam. 22:17-19)

III. A FAITH-FILLED CONFIDENCE (13-14)

A. FAITH IN GOD'S GOODNESS (13)

1. He will deliver ...
 - Exp: Abraham with Isaac in Gen. 22:7-8
2. He will deliver before I die
 - We don't have to die to enjoy His goodness
3. He keeps me from despair
 - "Whom we have tried we trust" [W. Forsyth in Pulpit Comm. p. 205]

B. FAITH IN GOD'S TIMING (14)

1. Be calm!
 - Don't impatiently push God aside
2. Be confident
 - Be strong: A heart's pep talk to itself
3. Be courageous
 - a. Let your heart take courage
 - b. Exp: Joshua at the walls of Jericho - Josh. 6:1-5
4. Be calm!
 - A command for continued concentrated waiting upon God

CONCLUSION:

A wavering faith will be strengthened as we faithfully wait upon God

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- Psalm 91:1*