

## Reading Through Psalm - My Thoughts and Comments

Psalm 27: 1; 5; 10

### New International Version

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?

### *The Message*

*Light, space, zest—that's God! So, with him on my side I'm fearless, afraid of no one and nothing.*

*That's the only quiet, secure place in a noisy world, the perfect getaway, far from the buzz of traffic.*

*My father and mother walked out and left me, but God took me in.*

If God is with us, who can be against us? Expressed in different ways, the question of the scripture pertains to things that can cause fear. The unknown or uncertainty of the future can cause fear; the possibility or certainty of failure can cause fear; the potential or actual loss of a valuable or precious thing can cause fear, and the impulse of a near-accident or mishap can cause fear...as many other things can cause us fear.

With all the possibilities (or causes) for fear, how do we live our lives with courage - not in our own abilities but in God's promises? As with the pursuit and understanding of truth, the ability to overcome our fears rests in God alone who not only commands us to do so, but provides his Spirit to help us in our weakness or momentary bouts with fear. The Psalmist expresses his fear at times but also cries-out and praises God in these difficult times.

Though fear will come, if just for a moment at times, **yet God is there; he is with us even in the "valley of the shadow of death" and, by his power, will lead us to a safe place from which we may still know his presence and his promises when others have failed or forgotten us.**

Fear not, for God is with you; be not dismayed, for God is your God - who loves both now and forever and will receive you always.

H. Kirk Rainer