

January 25, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Ps. 27:1 *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? (NIV)*

Here is an encouraging word for us today. I think of how blessed we are to have light. As I travel through many parts of Colorado, there are still remnants of early settlers, abandoned settlements and old mines. When I pass them by, I reminded of what it must have been like to live and work in harsh areas without electricity. The only lights many people had were from lanterns and fires. As I write this devotional today, I am blessed with light to see, a computer to type on, and heat to warm me when it is below zero outside. In the day that David wrote this psalm, he was not so blessed. For most of his young life, he was running for his very life from a king that wanted to kill him. He hid in dark, cold caves and in clefts in the rocks. His absolute hope for protection came from the LORD. But instead of being depressed and down in spirit, David was just the opposite. He knew that what the LORD had said through the prophet Samuel would come to pass. He had been anointed King over Israel. He did not run ahead of God trying to get rid of Saul as Saul was trying to do to him. In fact, on one occasion, we read in **1 Sam. 24** that Saul had gone into a cave and while he was in there, David crept up and cut a small piece off of his robe. When Saul left the cave, David followed him out and told him that he could have killed him, but that we would not lift his hand against his king. Saul replied in v. **17-20** ***“You are more righteous than I,” he said. “You have treated me well, but I have treated you badly. You have just now told me about the good you did to me; the Lord delivered me into your hands, but you did not kill me. When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed? May the Lord reward you well for the way you treated me today. I know that you will surely be king and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands.”*** (NIV) You see, the LORD was David’s light and salvation; the stronghold of his life. There is nothing more freeing than to know and experience this in your life.

Dear LORD, You are our light and our salvation. We have no need of fear because You are our safe place. You watch over us and protect us. We are blessed and encouraged because of Your faithfulness. In Jesus Name, Amen