

15 November 2020

To all members of the St James Traditional Services

A Weekly Word of Encouragement: Seeking God's Presence

Psalm 27 – a favourite of mine; read it reflectively and savour!

How beautiful is God! The opening verses are sublime!

The Lord brightens every situation and will guide me; He is my security whose presence is my refuge; He saves both now and for eternity. No matter how great the challenges of life, I will not fear, I will not fall, I will be confident.

My heart's desire: to gaze on the beauty of the Lord (vv. 4, 8)

Gaze = not a glimpse but a sustained focus on Him. The Lord is fully revealed in Jesus, and Jesus is revealed in God's Word. As we read and prayerfully meditate on the Bible, the Holy Spirit enables us to see Him and changes us to be like Him (2 Cor. 3:17, 18). The more we gaze, the more like Him we become; so seek His face (v. 8)

Sin in our lives can hide God's face, so we need Him to teach us His ways, to bring us back in repentance, and restore our confidence in Him (vv. 5-11). Even if I lose my closest human relationships, my greatest treasure is the Lord in all His beauty. One day I will see Him face to face in heaven, and this gives me confidence to wait in hope: to be strong until that Day dawns.

Prayer

"All fairest beauty, heavenly and earthly,
Wondrously, Jesus, is found in Thee;
None can be nearer, fairer, or dearer,
Than Thou, my Saviour, art to me." Amen

(The last verse of the hymn 'Fairest Lord Jesus.')

Remember

- keep praying daily
- keep reading God's Word
- keep in touch with one another.
- And if you need me I am only a phone call away: 0438 455 493.

With Christian love,

Robert

St James is open for face-to-face services: Wednesday at 10^{AM}, Sunday at 9^{AM}, 11^{AM}, 6^{PM}.

Pre-registration for these services is no longer necessary