

A 40-DAY FAITH EXPERIENCE

HEALER

What do we need in this series?

Our people are hurting.

Our families are hurting.

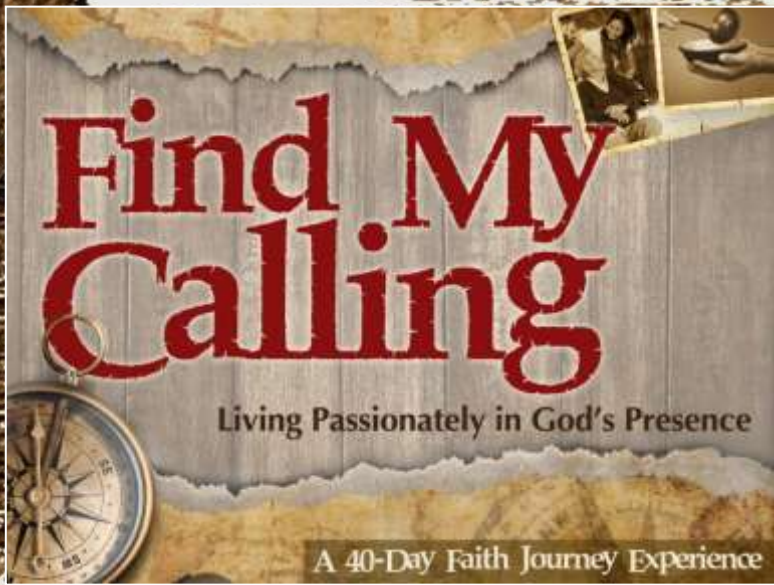
Our nation is hurting.

We need a Healer.

- Without healing, we can't focus on anything else.
- With healing, we can move forward to our next mission assignment.

Who do we need in this series?

“Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed;
save me, and I shall be saved, for you are my
praise.” Jeremiah 17:14



January 2014



January 2015



January 2016



January 2017

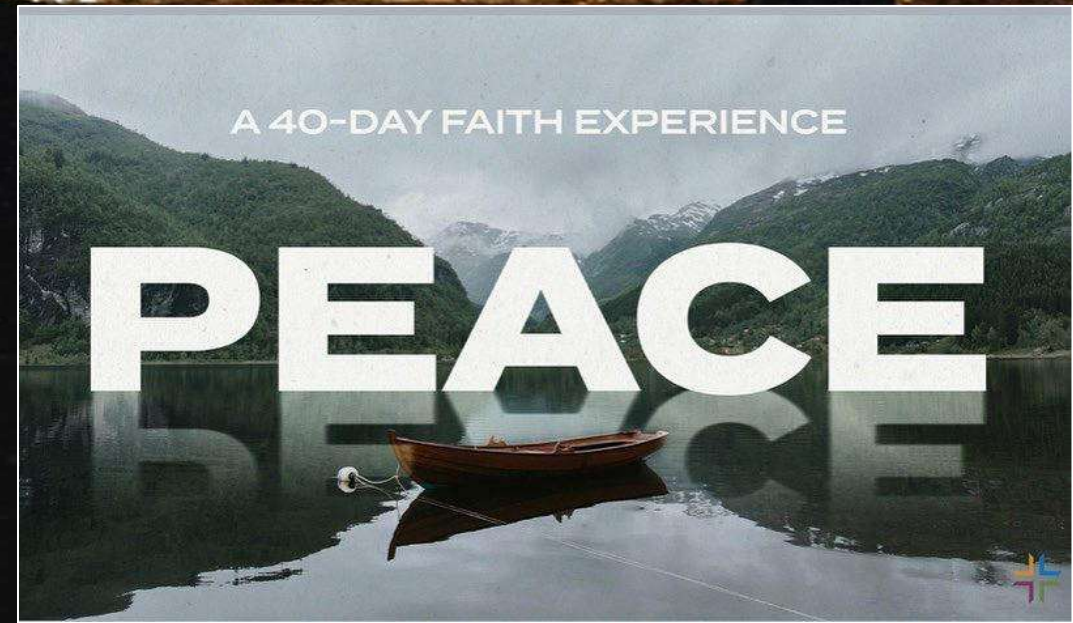


January 2018

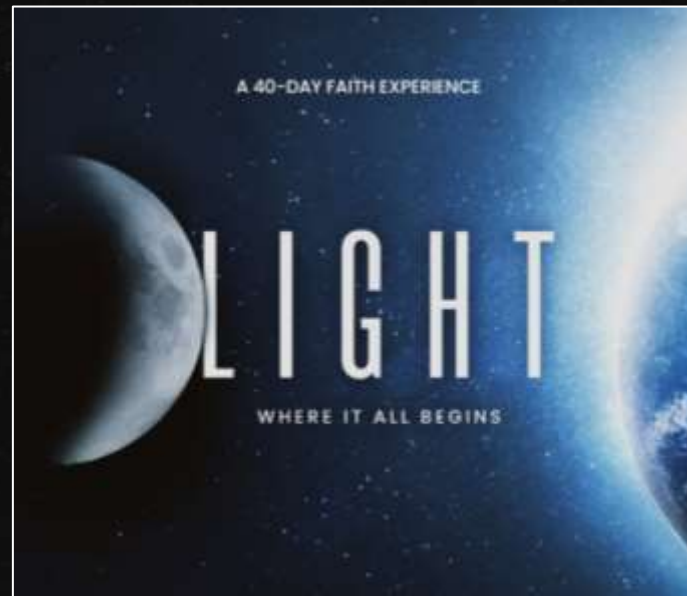
**40 Days
of
FAITH**



January 2019



January 2020



January 2021

**40 Days
of
FAITH**

A 40-DAY FAITH EXPERIENCE

HEALER

January 2022

Why 40 Days?

**Number “forty” + (time period)
is mentioned 146 times in Scripture.**

**It symbolizes trial and testing, probation,
or the fulfillment of promises.**

During this 40-Day Faith Experience,
First Melissa challenges you to commit to:



HEALER

Attend worship each Sunday

Attend a small group

Pray and study every day using the Daily Workbook

Attend Wednesday night 40-Day services each week

Healing from what kind of pain?

- Physical
- Emotional
- Spiritual
- Relational
- Medical
- Financial

Jesus our Healer

In our small groups during this 40-Day series, we will study many of the stories of Jesus performing miracle healings.

We encourage you to try a small group this week!

HEALER

H

E

A

L

E

R

HEALER

H Help me!

E

A

L

E

R

HEALER

H Help me!

Does God care that I hurt so much?

Psalm 27 – 28

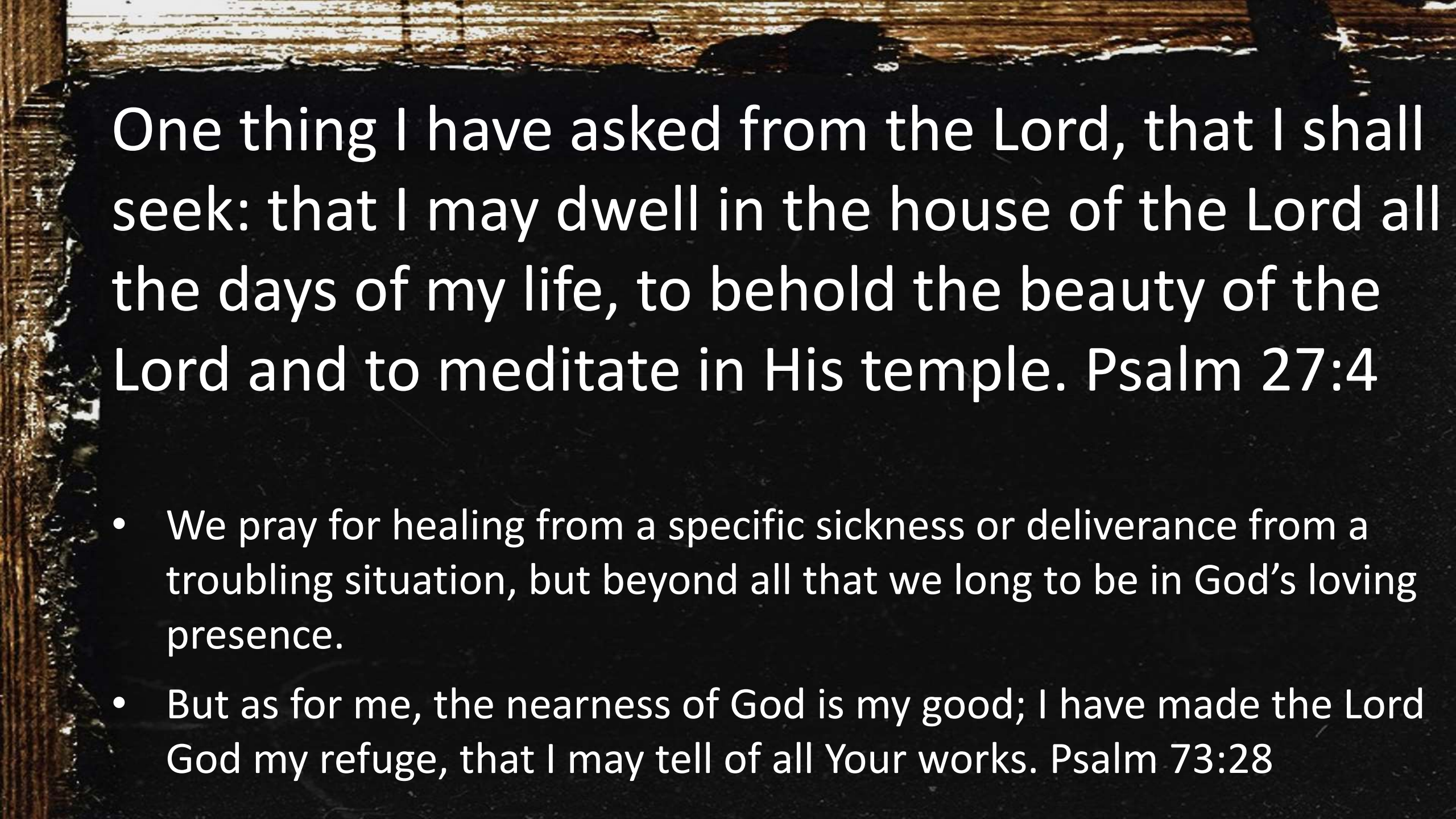
prayers written by David

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread? Psalm 27:1

- When I am hurting, the world seems darker.
- When I am hurting, my fears increase because I wonder when the next painful experience will come.
- David also wrote... For You light my lamp; the Lord my God illuminates my darkness. Psalm 18:28

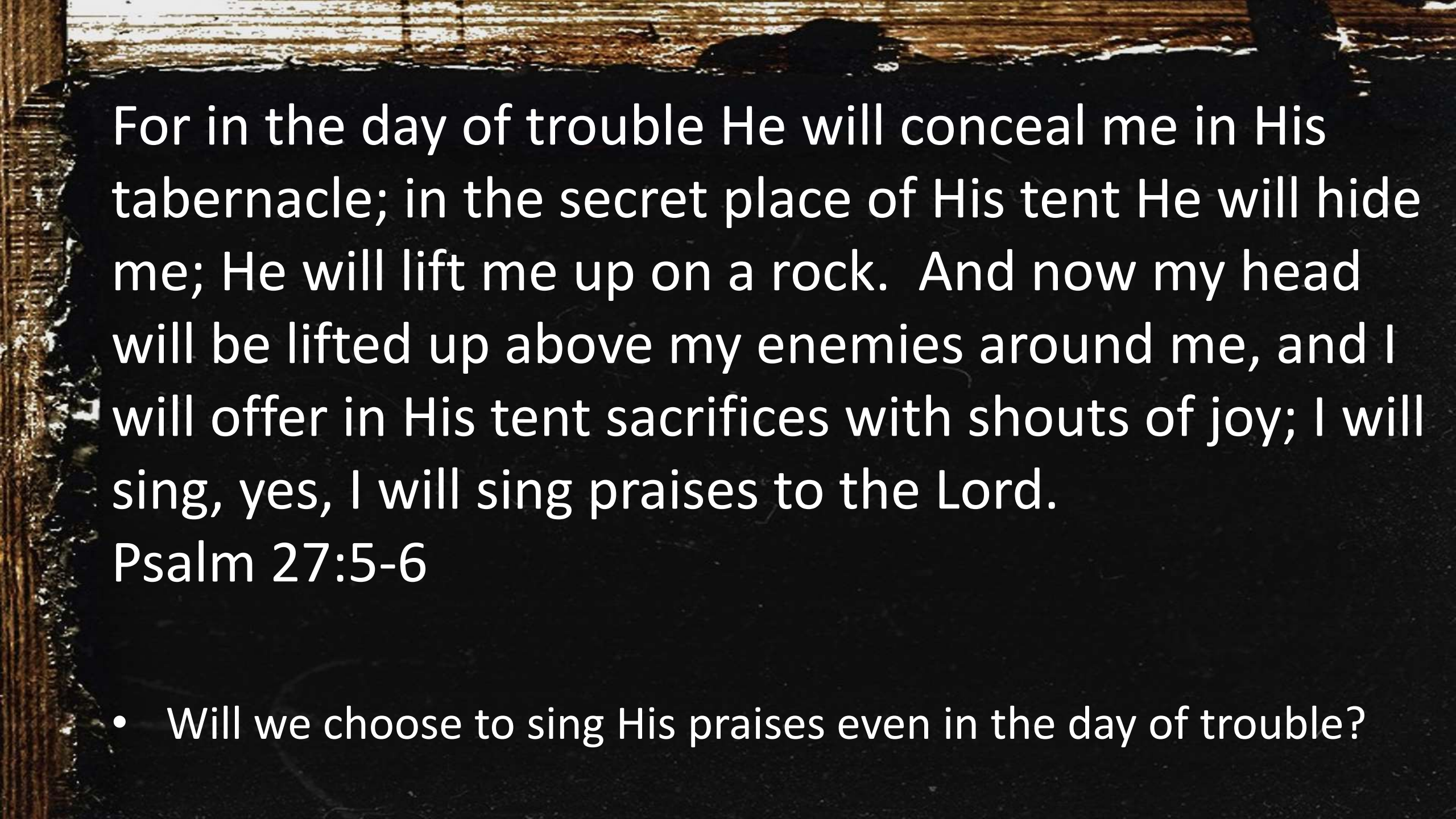
When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, my adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though war arise against me, in spite of this I shall be confident. Psalm 27:2-3

- When we are hurting, we feel surrounded



One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple. Psalm 27:4

- We pray for healing from a specific sickness or deliverance from a troubling situation, but beyond all that we long to be in God's loving presence.
- But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works. Psalm 73:28



For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle; in the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock. And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

Psalm 27:5-6

- Will we choose to sing His praises even in the day of trouble?

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice,
and be gracious to me and answer me.

Psalm 27:7

- Does it ever feel like no one can hear you when you cry?
When you pray?
- Feeling abandoned by God hurts more than the difficult
circumstances we face.

When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, O Lord, I shall seek." Do not hide Your face from me, do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; do not abandon me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation! Psalm 27:8-9

- Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my distress; incline Your ear to me; in the day when I call answer me quickly.
Psalm 102:2

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me up.

Psalm 27:10

- When we hurt, we instinctively turn to other people for comfort and healing.
- It is a blessing when family members and friends comfort us and minister to us.
- Even if they cannot or will not, our God can and will.

Teach me Your way, O Lord, and lead me in a level path because of my foes. Psalm 27:11

- My pain might be caused by the choices I have made and the paths I have followed.
- How do I change direction? How can I walk a different path? Learn the ways (paths) of the Lord, not ones led by ego, pride, or sin.
- David wrote, “Make me know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day.” Psalm 25:4-5

Do not deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and such as breathe out violence.

Psalm 27:12

- When they talk about me... is it true?
- Is my pain caused by the company I keep?
- Do I need to separate myself from pain-inducing people?
- Or... am I the one causing pain for someone else?

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord. Psalm 27:13-14

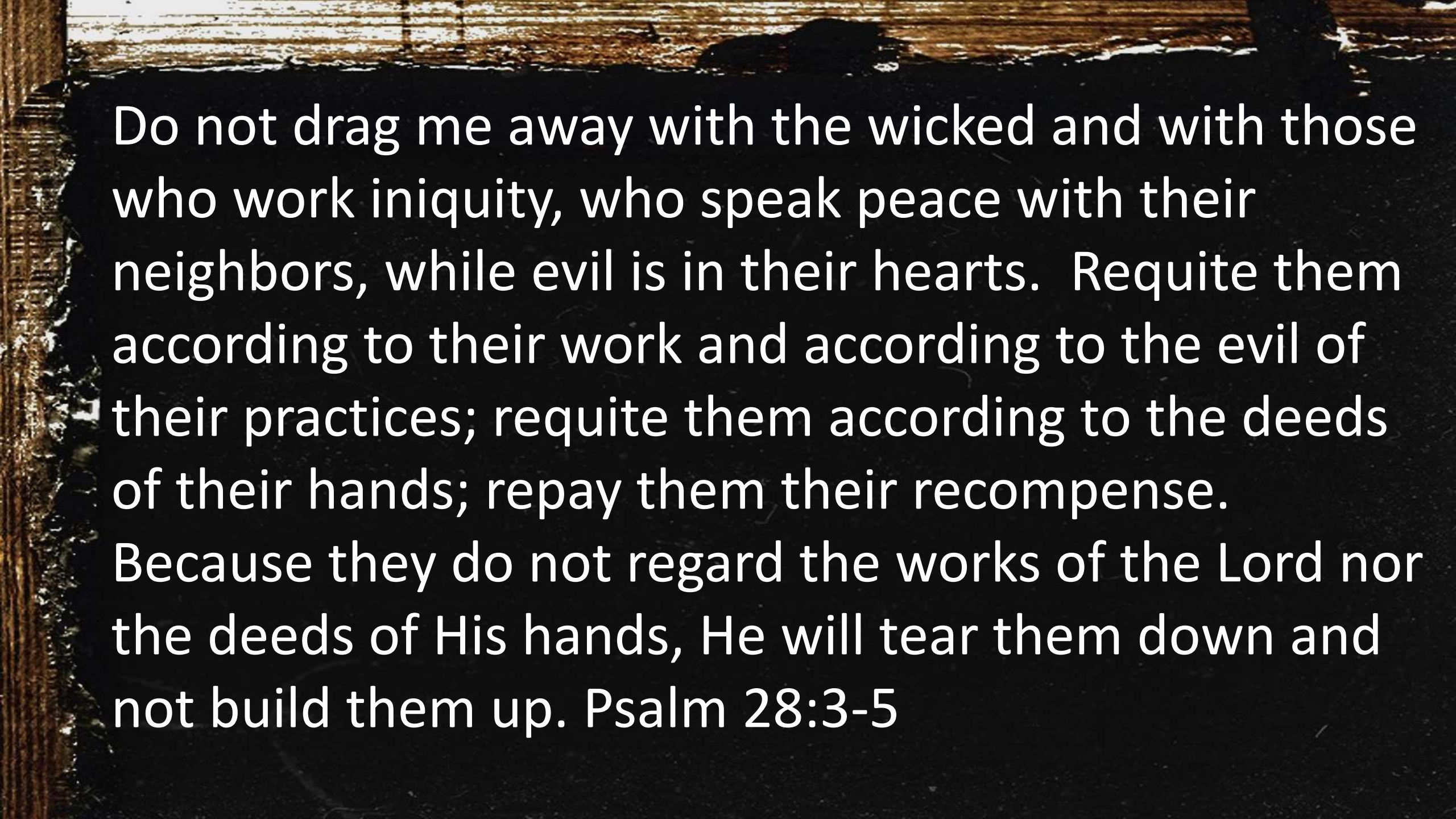
- Though our types of hurts differ, all pains have some things in common... hurting people often go through a range of emotions.
- We can feel strong and confident today and weak and defeated tomorrow.
- When we hurt, we want it fixed NOW.

Theme Verse for 2022

Do not say, “I will repay evil”;
wait for the Lord, and He will
save you. Proverbs 20:22

To You, O Lord, I call; my rock, do not be deaf to me, for if You are silent to me, I will become like those who go down to the pit [grave]. Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You for help, when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary. Psalm 28:1-2

- We want to be heard, we need to be heard



Do not drag me away with the wicked and with those who work iniquity, who speak peace with their neighbors, while evil is in their hearts. Requite them according to their work and according to the evil of their practices; requite them according to the deeds of their hands; repay them their recompense.

Because they do not regard the works of the Lord nor the deeds of His hands, He will tear them down and not build them up. Psalm 28:3-5

Blessed be the Lord, because He has heard the voice of my supplication. Psalm 28:6

- Supplication – a call for help, a humble plea
- תַּחֲנוּן *takhanoon*
- Being ignored hurts
- Being heard heals

The Lord is my strength and my shield Psalm 28:7a

מָגֵן *magen*

The root word of the Hebrew noun *magen* is *ganan* גָּנַן which is a verb meaning to “defend, cover, or surround.”

- After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; your reward shall be very great.” Genesis 15:1
- “Blessed are you, O Israel; who is like you, a people saved by the Lord, who is the shield of your help and the sword of your majesty!” Deuteronomy 33:29

- The *magen* was a small, circular shield used in close combat, as contrasted with the larger shield known as a *tsinnah* which protected the whole body from assault. This larger shield was often used on attacks of city walls, but it was far less maneuverable than the *magen*. The smaller shield was sometimes carried by archers (see Asa's valiant men in 2 Chronicles 14:8).
- Shields were made of a variety of materials including wood, leather, and metal. Leather shields had to be oiled regularly to prevent them from deteriorating.
- One of the important features is the graphic design of individual or family coats of arms, usually displayed on some form of shield. This decorative imagery goes back to at least medieval times when soldiers were identified in battle by the markings that were painted on their shields. The shield became an important feature in battle, not simply to protect soldiers from the thrust of an enemy's attack, but also to ensure that in the melee, they could easily identify which side soldiers were fighting on. - Brian Clatworthy

Etruscan
(ancient Italy)
shield from 8th
Century BC



David sang, “My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge; my savior, You save me from violence.” 2 Samuel 22:3

- Chaim Bentorah defines *magen (shield)* as “the revealed knowledge of God and His lovingkindness.”
- William Brown states that the shield establishes a zone of safety and security, a fitting image for God’s protective activity.

Magen is the Hebrew name for God meaning “the Lord is my shield, my protector.” God is your shield. You might not be able to see all that God protects you from but He does protect you. The Bible tells us that God shields us from enemy fire. Ancient shields were often made of layered cowhide and were used in situations of close combat as well as to protect soldiers from rocks hurled at them from city walls. They could also be used as shade during the heat of the day, a shelter to rest under at night. - Karen O'Reilly

<https://www.scripturalgrace.com/post/magen-the-lord-is-my-shield-biblical-meaning-and-praying-the-names-of-god>

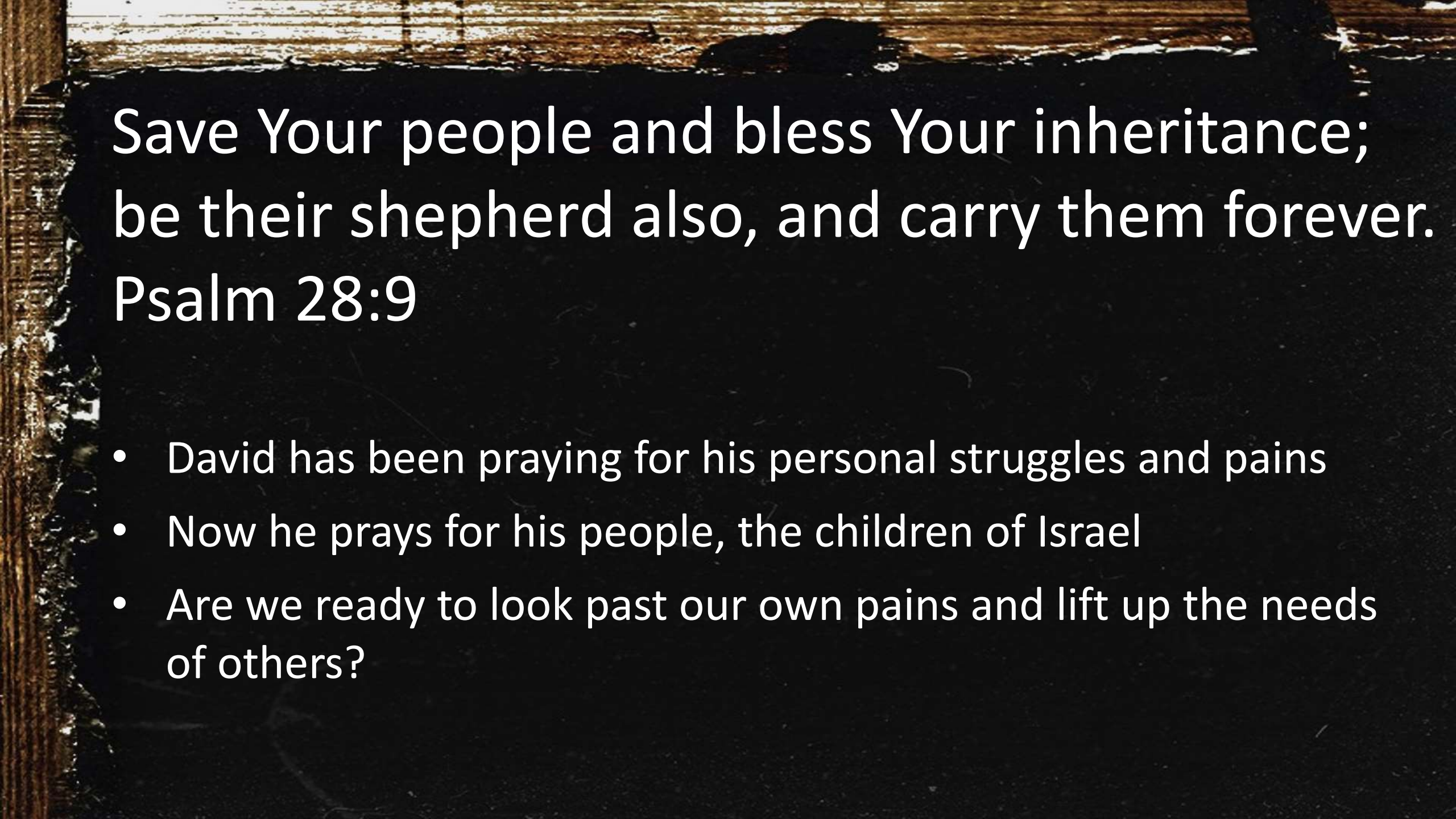
- My shield is with God, Who saves the upright in heart. *Psalm 7:10*
- The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. *Psalm 18:2*
- As for God, His way is blameless; the word of the Lord is tried; He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him. *Psalm 18:30*
- Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. *Psalm 33:20*
- For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. *Psalm 84:11*
- You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield. *Psalm 115:11*
- You are my hiding place and my shield; I wait for Your word. *Psalm 119:114*

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart exults, and with my song I shall thank Him. Psalm 28:7

- What is the testimony of one who has been healed?
- What is the declaration of those who walk with God even in the midst of pain?

The Lord is their strength, and He is a saving defense to His anointed. Psalm 28:8

- Hurting people lack strength
- We might define “Healer” as “one who GIVES me strength” or “one who IS my strength”
- As our *magen* (shield), our God is our saving defense



Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;
be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.

Psalm 28:9

- David has been praying for his personal struggles and pains
- Now he prays for his people, the children of Israel
- Are we ready to look past our own pains and lift up the needs of others?

Our Healer is our Shield

- Shields are a declaration (symbol) of strength
- Shields do not stop the attacks of the enemy
- Shields protect me from the attacks of the enemy
- Shields guide me in the confusion of battle
- Shields identify my Commander
- Shields give me confidence
- Shields guard my heart

HEALER

H Help me!

Does God care that I hurt so much?
He cares enough to be our Shield.

Jesus, our Shield, says, "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28