

Daily Devotional

April 23, 2005

(Contributed by David Berry)

Theme: I Need Not Be Afraid

Text: Psalms 27:1 - NLT

*The LORD is my light and my salvation —
so why should I be afraid?*

*The LORD protects me from danger —
so why should I tremble?*

Thought:

Sometimes in life we are rejected by others and the impact of those rejections grow inside us. It is in those moments that we need to stop and remind our selves of the words of the psalmist. We need to also share that love with those who suffer from the anguish of rejection.

Like the psalmist we need the perspective of God's illuminating light so that we can see things as they really are. God is our salvation, the source of our deliverance. Graciously, he heals our hurts and sets us free. In His presence we feel the strength of His spirit giving us protection and victory.

Jesus has broken the cycle of rejection and retaliation. He calls me to love my enemies, bless those who curse me, and do good to those who spitefully use and persecute me (Matthew 5:43-44). Who can live that quality of love? No one, except by His power. The only final cure for the frowning face of rejection is the smiling face of God's love and acceptance in our hearts.

Reflection:

Ask yourself -

- Why am I so troubled by people's actions?
- Why do rebuffs disturb me so much?
- Could it be that what people think of me is more important than what the Lord thinks?
- Do you need the acceptance of people more than the Lord's?

Prayer: Lord, help me feel secure in your love and protection. Help me never to forget your constant love and acceptance. My the security you provide me, flow through me to all those around, that they may come to know you also.