

Inspire

A word of hope, support, and encouragement

“I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.” Psalm 27:13 (NASB)

WINNING THE Battle of Despair

King David, the warrior of God, is one of my favorite examples of faith in action. Given the calling in his life, he had many distractions as he served God faithfully. He was not a perfect man, but he was a faithful man (Luke 18:8). All through the Psalms written by David, he expresses and proclaims an undying love and allegiance to the God of His faith.

In this particular Psalm, David says, “...he would have despaired....” The *New Oxford American Dictionary* defines “despair” as “**the complete loss or absence of hope, the presence of desperation, distress, pain, anxiety, etc.**” Does this sound familiar globally right now? Often it may be easier for our attention to be captured by God's goodness. We certainly want God's deliverance and blessings, failing to realize that our trust in God grows in the trials and the distressful times of life (James 1:2-3).

David, whose life was his faith, depended on God's Word to sustain him as he walked by faith (2 Corinthians 5:7). In our verse above, David said despair would consume him, “...if he had not believed He would see...,” yet David exercised faith and believed in God.

When times were tough, David reminded himself and delighted himself in the things of God (1 Samuel 30:6). David knew the goodness of the Lord because he believed in God's faithfulness in desperate times. God will always be near to those who would believe before they “would see.”

Sure, you may not see your way through your current circumstance. You may be waning in hope and growing weary, but draw near and allow your faith to make God's goodness your present reality. Make this the day you **believe**—truly believe—then **see** God's goodness in your life and the land!

Prayer: Dear Lord of heaven and earth, thank You that Your goodness rescues my faith and frees me to believe in You. You alone are the author and finisher of my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Milton Harding

Special Assistant for Prayer and Care

✉ mharding@sbcv.org