

# Psalm 119

## A Devotional Bible Study

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Hillsboro, MO

**Psalm 119: Ryan's Podcast Notes on the 22 Part Series**

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## **Introduction**

In this ebook you will find my notes from a podcast series and study I did back in 2013 when I was in college and a local ministry school. These notes have intentionally not been polished and brushed up to be a book. They are devotional notes from my own readings of the Psalm in the midst of a challenging season of my life. My hope is that they will be a help to pastors around the world seeking resources to help them in the tasks of the Great Commission--Evangelism and Discipleship--who God has brought to our ministry.

These notes are a collection of thoughts, commentary, and quotes helping apply the Scripture to one's life. They are devotional – not systematic, not historical, not dry theology.

You will find variety in this study. Some sections have more blank space than others to encourage you to write (well, that's what we're going with because I had to wing those podcasts and didn't have time to write notes back in college!).

I truly hope that these lessons will be an encouragement in your walk with the Lord Jesus Christ – Our Wonderful Savior and Lord!

Grace, Truth and Peace in Christ,

Ryan Marks

2016



# Psalm 119 Part 1: Walk in the Way of the Lord!

ALEPH

**1** Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. **2** Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart. **3** They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. **4** Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy precepts diligently. **5** O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! **6** Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments. **7** I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments. **8** I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

***<sup>1</sup>Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.***

It is a blessing to be undefiled: to not pollute yourself in the wickedness of sin. James 4:4

Walk in the Way of the Lord! For there you shall find the blessing of the Lord and the peace that passes all understanding. When God becomes your all-consuming focus and desire, you will walk after Him.

And as we walk after Christ wholeheartedly and daily and faithfully taking up our crosses and following Jesus we will stay on the narrow road—be not over-confident lest you fall!—and will remain undefiled from blatant sin.

In addition, we will walk according to God's Rules, His standards of right and wrong, as we draw near to Him and learn His Word.

***<sup>2</sup>Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.***

If you seek God with your whole heart you will be blessed (Matt. 6:33)! All throughout the Scriptures we find that God wants a relationship with us that is based on us seeking Him and relying upon Him. He desires to be our Father, Friend, and Lord. You have a choice, He will not force you to follow Him, but if you will not choose Him that doesn't mean that He won't punish your sin. Yea, the wicked will be punished! However, **if you seek Him with your whole heart....**that phrase was spoken to Solomon by

His father David, the man after God's own heart and was repeated throughout the books of Kings and Chronicles: that if Kings would seek the Lord and follow Him that they would be blessed! Keep the Lord's testimonies, dear friend, seek Him with thy whole heart for the Lord is more important than all else. He will guide you, He will be a Father to you, He will knit up your broken heart, He will teach you what you do not yet know, and He will protect you from the Enemy. Our gracious God should be given the first place in our lives and hearts, yea all our strength, mind, soul! He deserves your whole heart.

***<sup>3</sup> They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.***

Iniquity has several definitions: lawlessness, sin, transgression, guilt

As you are following Lord, you will not be living a life full of transgressions of God's ways, but rather, walking in the joy of the Holy Spirit.

***<sup>4</sup> Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.***

Diligently pay attention the Word of God. Apply it to your life, memorize it, consume it and literally make it a part of you. Study it, spend time in devotions having the Holy Spirit teach you it, listen to preaching on it, read books that heavily utilize it, do topical searches of it, examine its words in the original language and Diligently follow what you learn from it (remembrance). Remember the Word of God.

***<sup>5</sup> O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!***

You may remember times when you have sinned, although a Christian, and thus you cry out to God, "O that my ways were directed to keep Thy statutes!"

***<sup>6</sup> Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.***

And this verse builds on the last, that if our ways were directed to keep the statutes of the Lord, then we would not be ashamed and would have respect for all the commandments.

***<sup>7</sup> I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.***

Praise the Lord with a pure heart, with a clean heart. The Christian life is meant to be one keeping with repentance, that is, a life of opening your heart to the Spirit of God and as a ministry book I am reading says, “Repentance is godly sorrow for sin followed by a sincere effort to forsake sin.” (2 Cor. 7:9-10, 2 Pet. 3:9) After we have repented and know that our heart is right with God because of the Holy Spirit, our teacher, counselor, and comforter, we can praise the Lord with new Joy—thankful and grateful for the forgiveness and pardon that He has given us as well as the salvation and New Life that we have in Christ Jesus, whether it began six weeks ago or sixty years ago.

***<sup>8</sup> I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.***

And this section ends with the writer purposing to keep the Lord’s statutes and asking the Lord to not forsake Him. Now we know from Scripture that the Lord will never leave us or forsake us, but in the Old Testament the Spirit of God came upon people and left according to God’s special purposes for a limited time only. Saul and David are a good example of that. Perhaps here is a remembrance of that, I’m not sure. But nonetheless, we do often feel, **EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE PURPOSED IN OUR HEART TO FOLLOW THE LORD**, like crying out to our Father, O Lord, don’t forsake me! In our humility we recognize that we are not strong and that we need Christ’s strength to live like Him and that we need the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to enable us to follow the Lord faithfully.

## Outline of this Section of the Psalm

#1 Desire, the want to

#2 Diligence, Application, integration, into life . . . Do it.

#3 Prayer

#4 Shame removed in Christ

#5 The type of praise God desires

#6 Our choice and God's sovereignty

## Psalm 119 Part 2: With My Whole Heart

BETH

<sup>9</sup> Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word. <sup>10</sup> With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. <sup>11</sup> Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. <sup>12</sup> Blessed *art* thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes. <sup>13</sup> With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth. <sup>14</sup> I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches. <sup>15</sup> I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. <sup>16</sup> I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

**<sup>9</sup> Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.**

Young people far too often are known for their sinful ways. Running around with the wrong crowd, foul mouths, disrespect, rebellion; but these are not the things that God desires for young people. He desires them to sober up and recognize the truth of Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:7 declare:

**Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these *things* God will bring thee into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth *are* vanity.**

**Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain: In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low; Also *when* they shall be afraid of *that which is* high, and fears *shall be* in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because**

**man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets: Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.**

Cleanse your way O young people (and older people) by taking heed to the Word of the Lord, the Bible. Its Truth is true and will not be proved a lie. The Bible is without error, it is the perfect Word of God, it is Final and will stand forever.

**<sup>10</sup> With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.**

David was a man after God's own heart—He regularly sought God and worshiped Him, yet David did wonder from the commandments on several occasions: he committed adultery, murdered, numbered the people and largely remained silent as His children fought and rebelled. It is important to remember that a Christian is not immune to sin, even with a heart after God if we do not Fear the Lord we can wander off like David did. The Fear of the Lord is a literal fear of His judgement. Every thought, motive and Word will be judged by Jesus one day and in light of that reality it is not a bad thing to Fear letting our tongue run loose for we know that God's desire is not that we be uncontrolled, but that we be self-controlled, Holy, and set apart, separate from the broad road of sin. He desires for us to walk the narrow road.

**<sup>11</sup> Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.**

Hiding the Word in our heart through memorization, careful study, and meditation are methods of protecting ourselves from sin. Jesus spoke the Word, 3 passages from Deuteronomy, in response to Satan's temptation, and Ephesians 6 declares that the Word of God is our Sword of the Spirit. I have a friend who clings to a verse in the Bible which in essence says that the power of Christ will keep a person pure until the Jesus returns (1

Cor. 1:6-9). Mary hid the things that the Lord did throughout Jesus' life in her heart. O how we should hide the Word in our heart!

**<sup>12</sup> Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.**

Praise the Lord for His goodness, bless His Name! that should be our attitude: and attitude of gratitude to the Lord. And out of our thankfulness, our blessing, may we ask the Lord to teach us His statutes. He has a specific way of doing things.

**<sup>13</sup> With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.**

It is important to speak the Word of God. It just does something when we proclaim the Word of God and I believe that is what this verse is saying.

Pray, Read the Lord's Word (His promises) over areas that you are tempted:

An Example for Purity that I quoted often as a young teen:

**There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*. 1 Cor 10:13**

**<sup>14</sup> I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.**

Have you rejoiced in the Testimonies of the Lord as much as you would in getting great riches: say a billion dollars? The author gives a great analogy here as to the condition of our heart. Even those who are not very emotional will usually express emotion when given 1 million dollars, but are they the same way in their rejoicing of the Lord's testimonies? This verse provides us a little heart checkup test.

**<sup>15</sup> I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.**

Again the importance of meditating. Meditate on the Lord's precepts: respect His ways.

**<sup>16</sup>I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.**

This verse is a great place to end: I will delight myself in Thy statutes: I will not forget thy Word. May I give you a suggestion? If you know that you struggle with delighting in the Lord's statutes and feel like you often forget His Word, then will you memorize this last verse and keep speaking it out: declaring it. If you memorize something and repeat it, it is going to produce something. You did this with your multiplication tables in school, but the principle is the same in Scripture memory and learning.

<sup>9</sup>Purity truth

<sup>10</sup>Purity Prayer

<sup>11</sup>Purity preparation

<sup>12</sup>Purity Cry

<sup>13</sup>Pure repetition

<sup>14</sup>Pure rejoicing

<sup>15</sup>Pure mind—meditation on the Word

<sup>16</sup>Pure delight

## Psalm 119 Part 3: How God Deals with Me

### GIMEL

17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live, and keep thy word. 18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law. 19 I am a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me. 20 My soul breaketh for the longing that it hath unto thy judgments at all times. 21 Thou hast rebuked the proud that are cursed, which do err from thy commandments. 22 Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies. 23 Princes also did sit and speak against me: but thy servant did meditate in thy statutes. 24 Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.

It's only when God deals in grace and blessing with us that we're able to live and keep His Word. Without Christ there is now way we would be able to be Christians. Without Christ there is no way that we could have a relationship with the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ separated sin's consequences from us. Now I'm not saying that you can just run around and sin and not have any consequences. Living a life of immorality may very well have the consequences of AIDS or HIV and those wont magically go away just because you're a Christian. But I can say this, you know all that sin you had in your past and then you came to Jesus Christ and you accepted Him as your Lord and Savior and you began to follow Him. You know what I can say because of Scripture's authority? Your sin has been forgiven.

Unless the Lord deals bountifully with us, unless He blesses and is merciful, there is not way that we can ever hope to make it. Our God is a just God and He is perfectly holy. Sin cannot stand in His presence. And so God did an amazing thing. He sent Jesus Christ as His son to die in your place and my place so that we can have a relationship with Him. It's amazing! He forgives us of our sin through Jesus Christ so that we can come and get to know Him because Jesus Christ's righteousness and perfection, sinlessness, is attributed to us. It's like Jesus has all these Rs of Righteousness covering Him and we have all these Ss covering us of Sin and Jesus takes our Ss upon Himself, and He died for those; and then

if you understand the Scripture you see that Jesus took His Rs, His Righteousness and put them on us when we believed in Him. The Righteousness of Christ that is covering us is why we can walk into the presence of God, why we can boldly enter the throne of Grace. It's not because of anything we have done or earned but we can walk boldly to throne of Grace because of what Jesus did for us. And that boldness should be humility. It should be meekness. Meekness is not weakness. Moses was considered the meekest man in all the earth, the most humble man the Bible says and yet Moses grew very bold! If you think of the Moses of the Bible do you think of a quiet and collected guy that's shy? He might have been shy in the beginning, but we don't see Aaron speaking for him later on as their in the wilderness for forty years. My point is, without God's mercy, unless He deals bountifully with us, how can we live and keep His Word? We can't. Without the power of Jesus Christ, without His forgiveness; without the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, it would be impossible to live the life that Jesus has called us too that the Word of God describes.

#### Verse 18

Many people will tell you before you begin a devotional time to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you, to teach you today, to speak to you and that's a great prayer to pray and that's what this verse reminds me of. Lord, open our eyes so that as we read the Word, as we listen to teaching, as we read books that we can behold and see wonderful things in Your Word. Help us to understand Your Laws, your Rules and why You do things the way you do. Help us, Father, to learn about Your Wonderful ways.

#### Verse 19

When we look at the fact that we're a stranger in the earth, one way we can look at this is that our home is Heaven. Our eternal home is Heaven. And while we're here on earth, why not cry out again in prayer, Father show us your commands! Teach us your Way! We can't make it without your guidelines and direction. Which way do I turn? Which decision do I make? Father, show me by the power of the Holy Spirit who is my counselor, my guide, my teacher and my helper and my comforter. Teach me your ways through your Word, O Lord.

#### Verse 20

Does your soul ever long to see God's judgement come to pass? Sometimes you'll see wicked men and women it seems succeeding in every area of life—getting away with sin and it seems like their fine. Has your soul ever been broken and longing for the Judgment of God to come. As we look at this verse 20, we see something very similar to what I just described. Perhaps here we see the author crying out to God and there's nothing wrong with crying out to Him brothers and sisters. The author "vents" so to speak as He prayed to the Lord and that's ok to do in your secret prayer closet. Let it out to God.

#### Verse 21

This verse is similar to the command in the book of James that God will punish the proud but He gives grace to the humble. You know humility is very important and humility and the fear of the Lord are so similar they are virtually the same. A humble person is someone who is going to fear the Lord, who recognizes their puniness in light of God's greatness, awesomeness, and perfection. They don't have any confidence in what they've done and even what their best is because they know that they're best isn't good enough. The fact here is not to go around with just a bad view of yourself and others, its not about being a person who is always

dreary and long faced. No that is not what humility is. Humility is recognizing that our righteousness that we have is as filthy rags but Jesus' righteousness is an amazing gift to us. And in light of the fact that one day we will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ, our judge where all of our words, thoughts, deeds and motives will be judged by Him. Every secret thing will be made known. That should give us a healthy fear and humility

Verse 21 The proud are cursed by God. God can't operate in a person's heart whose proud. Is God sovereign? Yes. But God has given us a free will, we are not robots. We have to choose to follow Him. That is why the humble will greatly be used by God – because they are willing to be used by Him, they are dependent on God and His strength. They're not dependent on themselves and that type of attitude is a lot easier to bless and direct than somebody who's stuck up, their heads in the clouds and they think they're the best. The proud person is not going to keep the commandments as this verse says, "they will err from the commandments of the Lord." I truly believe that pride is the root of every sin. What got Satan kicked out of heaven? Pride. Pride is the reason that Adam and Eve ate the fruit. It really comes down to pride. It's all about me, me, me. That's not the attitude God wants us to have.

Verse 22

Again, I see this as a prayer: Father, I've been following you, I've been walking following you; I've not been running around doing all these things that your Word says is wrong and Father I just come before you right now and I ask that You remove reproach and contempt from me for I have kept thy testimonies. Are we in a position, just ask yourself this question: are you in a position right now, is your heart in a position and condition where you can say "Lord, remove from me reproach and contempt, for I have kept thy testimonies."?

## Verse 23

Think of the princes here as rulers or authority figures. The authority sits and speaks against you but you, God's servant, kept the Lord's testimonies. Maybe you held your tongue. Jesus was silent as a lamb before the shearers as He was derided and mocked. Look at what He went through and yet He didn't talk back, He didn't mouth off, He didn't yell—it's amazing! But they servant did meditate in thy statutes. It's very important to think on the Word of God.

## Verse 24

They testimonies also are my delight and my counselors. Can you say that? Are the testimonies of the Lord your delight and counselors? When you're going through a decision do you go to the Word of God? Do you seek Him in prayer as well? Do you examine your decision and see if something is clearly violating Scripture here? Or is there Scripture to support one decision I should make? I'm not saying that a process of analysis alone will necessarily reveal which decision we are to make. But I can say this, God's Word is not a lie, it's always true. If His Word says the borrower is servant to the lender its true no matter whether your borrowing for a house or college or a car or for clothes. God's Word should be our counselor. I believe in prayer but God will never operate against His Word and so it is important that we know His Word do be able to distinguish truth from error in our own heart. His Word is forever settled in Heaven. Amen!

1. Necessity of God's Grace
2. Open my eyes
3. This world is not my home
4. Long to obey You
5. God rebukes the wicked

6. Remove false accusations
7. Rulers persecute me & I will look to You
8. Your ways—my delight & counsel

# Psalm 119 Part 4: Give Me Life According to Thy Word

## DALETH

**25** My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word. **26** I have declared my ways, and thou heardest me: teach me thy statutes. **27** Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works. **28** My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word. **29** Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously. **30** I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid *before me*. **31** I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame. **32** I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

Quicken: revive, make alive, to endue with life

**25** My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.

Does your soul cleave to the dust in anguish? Have you come to the place where your spiritual life is dry and you are in a desert longing for spiritual water, for a spring of refreshing from the Lord? Then your prayer is likely Quicken Me, Lord! Oh the sweet promise that God's Word will revive the weary soul. You will be endued with spiritual vigor. O taste and see the Lord is good! Behold His Word, drink deep draughts from His well, be strengthened and revived.

**26** I have declared my ways, and thou heardest me: teach me thy statutes.

Do you declare your doings to the Lord? Do you talk to Him as your dearest friend, as your faithful lover, as your trusted counselor? He will hear you! Be not afraid to declare your condition and circumstances to the Lord. He desires you to know Him and Oh how often we grow closer to Him when tested by trials. May our cry be, for we know the Lord hears us, Teach me thy statutes! Oh Lord, more of your ways! More of Your face would I behold! Teach me.

**27** Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.

O Lord, don't just make me feel good, don't keep me comfortable and complacent, give me not more or less than I need to cause me to cease depending on you. O Lord, make me to understand the way of Your precepts! Instill them, ingrain them in the very fiber of my being! Then, I shall overflow talking of thy wondrous works! Oh how I long to overflow talking of thy wonders at all times—in the valley, in the shadow; in the Body, at work, with the Lost—Oh Lord transform my heart that I may declare thy goodness!

**28** My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.

Has your soul every melted with heaviness and sorrow? In those times do not turn to distractions and fancies and entertaining pleasures but turn to the Word. O Lord strengthen men by thy Word. May I worship you and receive my strength from your presence. May the joy of your presence be my reviving, sustaining, and bold strength.

**29** Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously.

When you go through a challenging time of sorrow and heaviness, is not the temptation to lie near? O Lord, deliver me from the way of lying and grant me the truth of thy Law graciously. Imprint your Law and my heart and emblazon it on my eyes.

**30** I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid *before me*.

Choose this day. Do you choose the way of Truth and Life or of Error and Destruction. The choice is yours and mine. O may we choose the way of truth. May we gaze at the judgments of the Lord, may we lay them before us and meditate on the end of our actions, on the heinousness of our crimes, of the payday of our sin. And O may we find life eternal and peace with God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

**31** I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.

When you have passed through the valley, through the trail, through the pain, through the despair of standing alone will you be able to say I have stuck unto the Lord's testimonies? O hold fast, stand firm, love like Christ, share the Gospel in all days. Be diligent in season and out of season. Stand alone if thou must to cling to the Word of God. O Lord, I care only that I not be put to shame by You, may the shaming and reproach of man not cause my heart to fear or my steps to err. May I fear only You!

**32** I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

Lord, by thy sustaining grace, I will run the way of thy commandments. I will run the race with perseverance as Paul for the prize of everlasting fellowship with my Savior having run honorably and brought Him glory by having been faithful to the end. O Lord enlarge my heart with more of You that I may have the strength to run the way thy commandments bid me and bring thee honor and glory before the nations all my few days.

### In the Valley of Despair

Ps. 119:25-32

25 Give me Life!

26 Let it out—pray

27 Give me understanding

28 melting in sorrow

29 Remove sin & graciously teach me

30 Purposed to be faithful

31 Cling to God's testimonies

32 Enlarge my heart

# Psalm 119 Part 5: Teach Me to Live It

HE

**33** Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it *unto* the end. **34** Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with *my* whole heart. **35** Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. **36** Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. **37** Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me in thy way. **38** Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who *is devoted* to thy fear. **39** Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments *are* good. **40** Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.

33 Teach me so I live it  
34 Give me understanding  
35 Guide my steps  
36 Draw—incline my heart  
37 Protect my eyes  
38 Establish me firmly in Your Promises  
39 I fear Reproach; Your justice is good  
40 Quicken—make me live in Thy righteousness

## Psalm 119 Part 6: Stand for the Word

VAU

**41** Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, *even* thy salvation, according to thy word.

**42** So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.

**43** And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments. **44** So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever. **45** And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts. **46** I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed. **47** And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.

**48** My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.

41 Merciful deliverance

42 A sure answer for mockers/reproachers

43 a firm hope—pray to be steadfast, confident (Hebrews)

44 because 41-43, I will keep Thy Word

45 I will walk rightly & seek You

46 I will speak unashamed (Paul)

47 I will Delight in Your commands

48 I will praise publicly & meditate privately

# Psalm 119 Part 7: My Comfort

ZAIN

**49** Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope. **50** This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me. **51** The proud have had me greatly in derision: *yet* have I not declined from thy law. **52** I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself. **53** Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law. **54** Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage. **55** I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law. **56** This I had, because I kept thy precepts.

**49** Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.

Abraham ~ hope in a son

Jesus ~ the hope of the world

God promises us things. And at times, He gives us a Word of encouragement or understanding like Paul of his future awaiting him in Rome (Acts 20-21), or like Noah or the prophets and the destruction to come or like Abraham and his promise of a son.

Remember that Word, it gives you hope.

**50** This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

In afflictions that is when you are persecuted, made fun of, mocked, suffering, struggling—does the Word of God quicken—give life—to you?

We can all take comfort in the fact that Jesus has gone before us (Hebrews 4:15—remember the temptation of the Devil that Christ endured for 40 days?)

**51 The proud have had me greatly in derision: yet have I not declined from thy law.**

Derision—1828:

1. The act of laughing at in contempt.

Scorn, laughing-stock

The proud, not the humble or the godly are said to do this to you. Remember that fact. Usually, if you are laughed at, and especially if you are derided there is pride motivating and present in the individual(s) making fun of you.

**52 I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.**

Remember the Lord's work in history both in the OT and stories you have heard, read about, and personally experienced

--me homeschooled and history from a Christian perspective

REMEMBER

Journaling

--my precious journal (a secret joy)

--a source of encouragement in a dark season, and a valley of shadow

Pausing and re-living those memories in my mind. Delighting in my blessings.

**53 Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law.**

Are you horrified at the wicked's disregard for God's Word?

Would the people of Sodom and Gomorrah grieve your heart?

**54 Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.**

David sung—Stand message Psalms

Psalm 13 NKJV

**55 I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.**

In the night, the writer still kept God's law. In your dark times where it seems that you are just wondering through of shadow and gloom, do you remember the Lord's name and keep His Law? Those who do are truly, deeply committed followers of Christ.

**56 This I had, because I kept thy precepts.**

Keeping God's Words in the dark times

**Daniel PURPOSED in his heart.**

**Noah built an ark over the course of 120 years.**

**David was faithful taking care of his father's sheep.**

49 Hope

50 Comfort; infused w/love

51 Derided yet steadfast

52 Remember

53 Wicked be horrified

54 They Word, my song

55 The Lord's Name (is my Hope and Banner)

56 b/c of above

# Psalm 119 Part 8: Thankfulness to the Lord

CHETH

**57** *Thou art* my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words. **58** I intreated thy favour with *my* whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word. **59** I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies. **60** I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments. **61** The bands of the wicked have robbed me: *but* I have not forgotten thy law. **62** At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments. **63** *I am* a companion of all *them* that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts. **64** The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.

**57** *Thou art* my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words.

The Lord is our portion. Think of a poor person living in absolute poverty and God serving providing the meal each day that you need to survive.

**58** I intreated thy favour with *my* whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word.

David cried out for mercy at the threshing floor of ornah—remember that?

Wicked King Ahab cried out for mercy—he repented and God listened.

**59** I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.

When we pause and are still and think on the Lord's commands, he will change our hearts and we will be turned toward His ways, we will walk a new life.

THE INWARD CHANGE OCCURS FIRST AND THEN WORKS ITSELF OUT.

Real Faith

The Cross--Jesus

**60** I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.

If you have a hard heart dear friend, make haste to go to the Lord

Time before I was going to speak—confessed to my mentor

I wanted the Lord's Word and sought Him and the message was on pursuing GOD.

**61** The bands of the wicked have robbed me: *but* I have not forgotten thy law.

Have you been robbed by the wicked? Persecuted, mocked, stripped of your name? Even when the wicked rob you, like the writer you can continue to walk by Faith. You don't have to get side tracked and depart from the Lord's ways.

**62** At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.

I'm not sure whether is a literal statement or not.

Either way, rising at midnight—the darkest part of the night to thank God displays a heart that is willing to sacrifice in order to praise God.

**63** I *am* a companion of all *them* that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.

Who are your companions?

Prov 13:20 (KJV)

He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

A Fool, based on

Psalms 53:1 (KJV)

The fool hath said in his heart, *There is* no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: *there is* none that doeth good.

**64** The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.

Our Lord is merciful. Despite the wickedness and darkness of the World, he is still giving time for people to come to Jesus to be saved from Hell. Jesus will one day return and then there will be seven years of the Lord's judgement—the Tribulation on this earth. But everywhere we look God's mercy is present. Though our world is fallen, we are still creating and inventing and discovering new medicines and procedures. We have amazing technology and comforts and machines which allow us to take dominion of the earth more effectively. And even in the Tribulation, there will be a Remnant of Christians who the Lord will reserve as His witnesses.

O Great and Glorious, Lord, teach us thy Statutes!

- \**Torah* (Law), 25 times. Usually the word here indicates the whole body of Scripture's teaching as found in Moses' writings.
- \**Miswah* (Commands), 21 times. This refers to clear, definite directives issued by God.
- \**Huqqim* (decrees), 21 times. The Heb. means "things inscribed" and thus established in law.
- \**Mispot* (judgments), 19 times. The Heb. means a binding judicial decision that establishes a precedent.
- \**Piqqudim* (precepts), 21 times. This word, found only in poetry, is a synonym for edict or precept.
- \**'edah* (statute), 23 times. This is a sober and serious expression of God's standards for human behavior.
- \**Dabar* (word), 20 times. This means a revelation, but also is used specifically of the Ten Commandments God gave Israel through Moses.

- \**Imrah* (saying), 19 times. Another poetic word, often used instead of *dabar*.
- \**Derek* (way), 11 times. A metaphor for the way of life believers are to live.
- \**'Orah* (path). Another metaphor of lifestyle. We should not attach too much significance to the narrower meaning of these words.

—Bible Reader's Companion

Psalm 16:11

57 My Portion

58 intreated w/whole heart

59 examine yourself

60 Don't put off obedience

61 robbed by wicked but not forgetting God's way

62 Thankful even at midnight

63 Companion test (friends)

64 God's abundant mercy

Heart cry—O Teach Me

Fulfilled! Ezekiel 36, Jeremiah 31

# Psalm 119 Part 9: Chastisement

TETH

**65** Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word. **66** Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments. **67** Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word. **68** Thou *art* good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes. **69** The proud have forged a lie against me: *but* I will keep thy precepts with *my* whole heart. **70** Their heart is as fat as grease; *but* I delight in thy law. **71** *It is* good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes. **72** The law of thy mouth *is* better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

Blessed by You

Keep teaching me

God, You are Good

The Proud (fat) Lie but my whole heart delights in You

It's good that I've gone through hard times because I've learned your ways

Your words are better than thousands of pounds of gold & silver

# Psalm 119 Part 10: God, Through my Whole Life

JOD

**73** Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments. **74** They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word. **75** I know, O LORD, that thy judgments *are* right, and *that* thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. **76** Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant. **77** Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law *is* my delight. **78** Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: *but* I will meditate in thy precepts. **79** Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies. **80** Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

**73** Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.

1<sup>st</sup> point: The Lord created us in our Mothers' womb .

He ordained Jeremiah to a prophet from the womb

Sacredness of Life

Abortion

The Word says that God knits a child together in the womb, He fashions them, He makes them, He creates them. This means each person has meaning, purpose, and intentional design.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> point of this verse—we need our creator to also be our teacher and give us understanding.

**74** They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word.

Who are your most intimate friends?

If you've been a Christian for a while, they are probably Christians (people that fear God and are glad when they see you). There is a special affection between members of the Body of Christ. That is not a bad thing because we are influenced our friends and if our closest friends are tearing us down and serving Satan they will use their influence to destroy us not to build us up no matter how nice they may be.

Proverbs says if you want to be wise, walk with the wise. Your close friendships matter, choose them carefully.—Because we Hope in the Word

YET a FRIEND OF SINNERS we need to befriend the broken and hurting and love them as Jesus did. It was primarily the scum of society—the poor, the sickly, the prostitutes, widows, and tax collectors that responded to Jesus, not the religious Pharisees who completely distanced themselves from every sinner.

We are to hate the SIN, but Love the SINNER as Jesus did—example: parable of good Samaritan priest, Levite (pastor), enemy (Samaritan)

**75** I know, O LORD, that thy judgments *are* right, and *that* thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.

This verse re-iterates chastisement—the discipline, the correction of the Lord that we talked about last week in part 9. The Lord, faithfully tests us and corrects us –He refines us and the test lets us know what level of attack, temptation, hardship that we can withstand. I heard this past week at a little country church a principle that was a reminder of a principle I used to hold dear and a new, but profound analogy: IN the military, soldiers are tested so that their superiors will know what level of trail they can withstand, but also so that the soldier will personally know what you can withstand. EACH TRIAL YOU GO THROUGH IS ANOTHER REASSURANCE OF WHAT YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN WITHSTAND WITH CHRIST. IN CHRIST’S STRENGTH YOU CAN WITHSTAND EVERYTHING BECAUSE ITS HIM NOT YOU, BUT AS HUMANS We STRUGGLE WITH GRASPING THAT; THEREFORE, I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN DRAW ENCOURAGEMENT THAT THE LORD’S TRIALS ARE GIFTS, BLESSINGS to us of what the Lord has done so that we can cling to our testimony that THIS IS what the Lord has brought me through and I know He will be Faithful in whatever may come in the future as well. NO MATTER HOW GREAT THE DEPTH OR HOW WIDE THE DEPTH of what we go through, we cannot understand the great love that God has for us.

His love was displayed on the Cross when God gave up His own Son for you.

**76** Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.

This verse simply confirms the principle I was talking about in my explanation of the last verse.

**77** Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law *is* my delight.

The Lord gives us so many mercies and gifts of His grace. Without them we would not even be able to exist! Because He is the giver and taker of the breath of life. He is the sustainer of all things in this world. It is not the laws of nature happening to stay in just the right balance that makes life possible, IT is the sustaining GOD who is controlling each and every element like a huge control room filled with knobs to make sure that each factor of the earth's physical and chemical world are at just the right ratio to make life possible—evolution and chance can't do that: to believe that is to believe one of Satan's most ludicrous lies!

**78** Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: *but* I will meditate in thy precepts.

The Proud Legalists in Galatia—that wanted to exclude

Take heart that the proud who want to cause you to feel guilty and ashamed by being in their presence will one day be ashamed as they stand before the Lord and are humbled as they bow down and realize the futility of their self-centered pursuits.

Meditate on the Lord's Word---it will Keep your heart in the right place b/c you can't be obedient to the Holy Spirit and delight in His presence and not be changed and in the center of God's will. BE STILL ....and KNOW THAT HE IS GOD

**79** Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies. **80** Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

These verses re-iterate what we have talked about today. Take courage.

Psalms 119:73-80 (KJV)

## **RE-READ**

**73** Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments. **74** They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in

thy word. **75** I know, O LORD, that thy judgments *are* right, and *that* thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. **76** Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant. **77** Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law *is* my delight. **78** Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: *but* I will meditate in thy precepts. **79** Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies. **80** Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

Psalms 119:73-80 (KJV)

# Psalm 119 Part 11

## The Cry for the Realization of Salvation

CAPH

**81** My soul fainteth for thy salvation: *but* I hope in thy word. **82** Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me? **83** For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; *yet* do I not forget thy statutes. **84** How many *are* the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me? **85** The proud have digged pits for me, which *are* not after thy law. **86** All thy commandments *are* faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me. **87** They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts. **88** Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.

**81 My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word.**

Do you ever feel like you have just had enough and are going to stop and fall down because everything just seems to be fighting against you? You don't see the deliverance of God coming and your mind, will and emotions just feel like your salvation is distant? At those times, we must hope in the Word of God.

**82 Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?**

Do your eyes—does your sense of direction fade or even fail as your waiting for the Lord's Word, for His direction, His answer in prayer? Do you feel where is my comfort? Right not—anxiety stuff, doing too much. Enduring one more week of internship and work before a much needed vacation with my family.

**83 For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; yet do I not forget thy statutes.**

Does it feel like smoke and fog are blinding you from where you need to God, from where God's direction is? I am there right now on some personal decisions, but yet, I and you, must not forget the Lord's statutes—He will keep His promises.

**84 How many are the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?**

God how long till you are going to act! How long do I have to endure!

**85 The proud have digged pits for me, which *are* not after thy law.**

The proud have dug pits for me! Those that are pagans are doing this!

**86 All thy commandments *are* faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.**

Reminder—the Lord and His commandments are faithful. I may be persecuted wrongly, but HERE’S THE KEY: help thou me.

**87 They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts.**

Have we ever been to a place like David or whoever wrote this Psalm that we have almost been consumed? ...yet in the midst of it not forsaken the Lord’s precepts.

**88 Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.**

Quicken—enliven—me after Thy lovingkindness. The Lord is so kind and loving toward us. We don’t deserve Jesus. We don’t deserve His mercy. We don’t deserve His grace. We don’t even deserve His love. YET He offers them all to us.

Keep the testimony you made with your mouth the day you confessed your sins and accepted Christ. Keep walking and living out your life in Christ.

# Psalm 119 Part 12

## The Word: Settled once and For All

### LAMED

**89** For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. **90** Thy faithfulness *is* unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth. **91** They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all *are* thy servants. **92** Unless thy law *had been* my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction. **93** I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me. **94** I *am* thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts. **95** The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: *but* I will consider thy testimonies. **96** I have seen an end of all perfection: *but* thy commandment *is* exceeding broad.

**89** For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. **90** Thy faithfulness *is* unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth. **91** They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all *are* thy servants.

- Forever settled in heaven
- Our Lord's Prayer—on earth as it is in Heaven
- Faithfulness to ALL generations
- Established earth
- And sustain it, it abides
- What God does continues—they are His servants

**92** Unless thy law *had been* my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction. **93** I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.

- Unless we delight in the Lord's Word, we are going to serve something other than the Lord and will perish. We won't grow, life won't be to the full as Christ ordained it to be
- Don't forget His Word

- Feed yourself
- READ the Word—you're transformed by renewing of your mind (Rom 12:1-2)
- The Word quickens it enlivens it empowers us to go on
- It is a Bread—(Jesus—the Bread of Life) that the World knows nothing about

**94 I am thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.**

- I've been committed
- Following the Lord
- Therefore, O Lord, save me

**95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: *but* I will consider thy testimonies. 96 I have seen an end of all perfection: *but* thy commandment is exceeding broad.**

- Attacked, someone waiting to destroy you
- Persecuted
- Yet consider the Lord's testimonies. –Think about, contemplate, meditate on His Word

**[Psalm 119:96](#)**

- **I have seen an end of all perfection**—Literally, "Of all consummations I have seen the end:" as if one should say, Every thing of human origin has its limits and end, howsoever extensive, noble, and excellent. All arts and sciences, languages, inventions, have their respective principles, have their limits and ends; as they came from man and relate to man, they shall end with man: but thy law, thy revelation, which is a picture of thy own mind, an external manifestation of thy own perfections, conceived in thy infinite ideas, in reference to eternal objects, is exceeding broad; transcends the limits of creation; and extends illimitably into eternity! This has been explained as if it meant: All the real or pretended perfection that men can arrive at in this life is nothing when compared with what the law of God requires. This saying is false in itself, and is no meaning of the text. Whatever God requires of man he can, by his grace, work in man.

—Adam Clarke's Commentary

## **GOD'S FAITHFULNESS. ([119:89-96](#))**

The settling of God's word in heaven, is opposed to the changes and revolutions of the earth. And the engagements of God's covenant are established more firmly than the earth itself. All the creatures answer the ends of their creation: shall man, who alone is endued with reason, be the only unprofitable burden of the earth? We may make the Bible a pleasant companion at any time. But the word, without the grace of God, would not quicken us. See the best help for bad memories, namely, good affections; and though the exact words be lost, if the meaning remain, that is well. I am thine, not my own, not the world's; save me from sin, save me from ruin. The Lord will keep the man in peace, whose mind is stayed on him. It is poor perfection which one sees and end of. Such are all things in this world, which pass for perfections. The glory of man is but as the flower of the grass. The psalmist had seen the fulness of the word of God, and its sufficiency. The word of the Lord reaches to all cases, to all times. It will take us from all confidence in man, or in our own wisdom, strength, and righteousness. Thus shall we seek comfort and happiness from Christ alone.

—Matthew Henry Concise

# Psalm 119 Part 13

## Loving the Lord's Word through Meditation

MEM

**97** O how love I thy law! it *is* my meditation all the day. **98** Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they *are* ever with me. **99** I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies *are* my meditation. **100** I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts. **101** I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. **102** I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me. **103** How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth! **104** Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

**97** O how love I thy law! it *is* my meditation all the day.

LOVE the Lord's Word! His Laws.

I love to meditate and sit still and contemplate the Lord's Word—how about you?

**98** Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they *are* ever with me.

God's Word makes us wiser.

Proverbs

The Word of God comes to mind

I Personally have found that: Meditating on the Word and growing spiritually even helps us to have a better memory and retain information (learn) as well as reason. I believe it is simply a blessing the Lord gives us as we put Him first—matthew 6:33 not v. 34 as the pagans

**99** I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies *are* my meditation.

You will have greater understanding than your teachers

David

Me—class

Certain debates—knew things were wrong because of the Word

**100** I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

We can understand more than those of the past by simply adhering to the Lord's Word.

Example: Abraham –I don't think he understood all we do today of the Word of God or Christ because the Words hadn't been written yet.

**101** I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

Application and understanding of the Word of God keeps us from evil and enables *through humility* by the Holy Spirit to keep the Lord's Word.

**102** I have not departed from thy judgments: **for thou hast taught me.**

A personal devotional time –1<sup>st</sup> thing to go before you fall spiritually

The Word—staying in a personal devotional time **being taught by the Holy Spirit** keeps us from departing from the judgements of the Lord.

These *things* have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you. **27** But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

1 John 2:26-27 (KJV)

**103** How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

When you get into the Lord and **spend** time there, you taste of the Lord's sweet presence. There is nothing else in this world I desire more than spending time in the Lord's presence as His Holy Spirit teaches me His Word—there's always something to learn or be reminded of—a new aspect or deeper understanding to be gained (or received).

**104** Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

God's Word Gives understanding

Buy the truth, and sell *it* not; *also* wisdom, and instruction, and understanding

Prov 23:23 (KJV)

Psalms 119:97-104 (KJV)

# **Psalms 119 Part 14: Thy Word is a Light to my Path and a Lamp to my feet**

NUN

**105** Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. **106** I have sworn, and I will perform *it*, that I will keep thy righteous judgments. **107** I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word. **108** Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments. **109** My soul is continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law. **110** The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts. **111** Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they *are* the rejoicing of my heart. **112** I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, *even unto* the end.

**105** Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Direction

God's Word provides the guardrails.

He will guide us.

He guided Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, Paul, Silas, Peter, Jesus and many more!  
He will do the same for us.

A light—it sheds clarity on the darkness. When we feel lost, the Word of God can encourage us.

Pilgrim's Progress—unabridged—great principle: there will be times when you feel like you cannot hear from God, but in the midst of those times, God's Word can still be a comfort and something to cling to. Think of a soldier in a medieval movie: he presses on in the midst of despair and hardship and intense warfare because he believes in his king, country and duty. It is the same with the Lord, we love Him, His Kingdom, and we know that we need to be faithful to live our faith—Christian living: Psalm 119

**106 I have sworn, and I will perform *it*, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.**

True to your Word. “Sworn” (given word, said you would do it) and do it---stay true to the Lord

**107 I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.**

Testing and trials will come. Hardship WILL come. BUT, God will give us the live we need—He will quicken us according to His Word.

There is no way to prepare for some of life’s battles, but by spending time with the Lord quiet and still, reading His Word and listening to His Holy Spirit in the Secret Place.

**108 Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments.**

Freely, praise God, Glorify His name, and worship Him. It is a sacrifice, and offering, of praise

**109 My soul *is* continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law.**

Acknowledging God’s Sovereignty—He is in control of everything. He reigns (KING). He is all powerful.

Remembering Who God is encourages us to dive into His Word because we love Him and love His words—it is this that keeps us from forgetting the Law of God.

There is a balance and benefit : time alone with God, working hard, ministry, fellowship with other believers

**110 The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.**

Again, he is attacked by the wicked. Yet, he did not err for the Lord’s precepts—He was a faithful soldier in the SERVICE of the King.

**111 Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they *are* the rejoicing of my heart.**

Heritage—Israel, America, my family—what’s your heritage?

Rejoice in the lessons contained in the testimonies—the stories of God’s provision in Scripture (Israel—builds my faith) and country and family.

It is a rejoicing in your heart—builds you up, it gives my heart courage when I see God’s hand in the Bible, when I study His faithfulness throughout history.

**112 I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, *even unto the end.***

Incline your heart—get yourself the right heart attitude, then you will perform faithfully the Lord’s statutes—His ways. ....even to the very end....Jesus said “**And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**” Matt 24:11-13 (KJV)

# Psalms 119 Part 15: The Lord, My Hiding

## Place

### SAMECH

**113** I hate *vain* thoughts: but thy law do I love. **114** Thou *art* my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word. **115** Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God. **116** Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope. **117** Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually. **118** Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit *is* falsehood. **119** Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth *like* dross: therefore I love thy testimonies. **120** My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.

**113** I hate *vain* thoughts: but thy law do I love.

**114** Thou *art* my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.

**115** Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.

**116** Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.

**117** Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.

**118** Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit *is* falsehood.

**119** Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth *like* dross: therefore I love thy testimonies.

**120** My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.

Psalms 119:113-120 (KJV)

# Psalm 119 Part 16: True Justice—free from oppressors

(whether it be giving unwise charity or relativistic rulings)

AIN

**121** I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors. **122** Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me. **123** Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness. **124** Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes. **125** I *am* thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies. **126** *It is* time for *thee*, LORD, to work: *for* they have made void thy law. **127** Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold. **128** Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all *things to be* right; *and* I hate every false way.

**121** I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors.

The idea is that the author has lived a life administering justice rightly; therefore, he cries out not to be left to his oppressors.

Social justice—real justice

In our society today Biblical justice is largely unapplied.

I mean that by a social justice course I took

Welfare is not just

Redistribution of wealth is not just

We have a set of laws called the Robbin hood Laws—I no longer like Robin Hood

True justice is caring for those who truly need help.

But, hardly ever giving cash, rather give the need: food, clothing, etc...

The goal is not to give handouts, but gleanings—leave the “corners of the field”—allow the poor to work, man was created to work, not depend on a handout.

Handouts produce entitlement and will ultimately destroy a society—they are not justice  
expound

**122** Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me.

Surety is the idea of cosigning—guaranteeing that something will be paid.

Now, we are told not to be surety for others

Open up Proverbs 6

Debt is not wise—the borrower is servant “slave” to the lender

Now that you understand surety—realize what the author is asking God: be surety for thy servant...

**123** Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness.

Don't see the Lord's deliverance

Mine eyes—personally

And the word of the righteous—God's people (faithful Israelites here, faithful Believers in ours)

**124** Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes.

In light of 123—deal mercifully and teach me thy statutes—**Thy ways of doing things, Thy principles.**

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: **2** For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. **3** Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: **4** So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. **5** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. **6** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

### **to humility**

**7** Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. **8** It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. **9** Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: **10** So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. **11** My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: **12** For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.

Prov 3:1-12 (KJV)

**And there is more—read Proverbs 3 to learn the value of gaining the Lord’s wisdom**

**125** *I am* thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.

True wisdom and knowledge begin with the Fear of the Lord. We can ask God to give us understanding and wisdom. May we know the testimonies of His Word: the principles in it, the Truth, the stories, and the power, rightly dividing the Word of Truth

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

James 1:5 (KJV)

**126** *It is* time for *thee*, LORD, to work: *for* they have made void thy law.

God, you work! You move! It is time! They have made void—disregarded and discounted—Thy Law!

**127** Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.

But, I love your commandments, your Word, your Law more than gold, even choice, fine gold!

There is a contrast here—in the focus of the wicked and the righteous' hearts

**128** Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all *things to be* right; *and* I hate every false way.

B/c he loves the Lord

These things

And God's Word on all things to be right—nothing else is an absolute source of truth.

# Psalm 119 Part 17

## Glorifying God

and

## The Cry for More of Him

PE

**129** Thy testimonies *are* wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. **130** The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. **131** I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments. **132** Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name. **133** Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. **134** Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts. **135** Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes. **136** Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

**129** Thy testimonies *are* wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.

**130** The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

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**135** Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.

**136** Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

Psalms 119:129-136 (KJV)

# Psalm 119 Part 18: Consuming Zeal for the Bible

## TZADDI

**137** Righteous *art* thou, O LORD, and upright *are* thy judgments. **138** Thy testimonies *that* thou hast commanded *are* righteous and very faithful. **139** My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words. **140** Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it. **141** I *am* small and despised: *yet* do not I forget thy precepts. **142** Thy righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness, and thy law *is* the truth. **143** Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: *yet* thy commandments *are* my delights. **144** The righteousness of thy testimonies *is* everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

The Bible—The WORD of God

**137** Righteous *art* thou, O LORD, and upright *are* thy judgments.

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**144** The righteousness of thy testimonies *is* everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

Psalms 119:137-144 (KJV)

# Psalm 119 Part 19: What is Your Cry?

KOPH

**145** I cried with *my* whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes. **146** I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies. **147** I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word. **148** Mine eyes prevent the *night* watches, that I might meditate in thy word. **149** Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment. **150** They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law. **151** Thou *art* near, O LORD; and all thy commandments *are* truth. **152** Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

**145** I cried with *my* whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes. **146** I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies. **147** I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word. **148** Mine eyes prevent the *night* watches, that I might meditate in thy word. **149** Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment. **150** They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law. **151** Thou *art* near, O LORD; and all thy commandments *are* truth. **152** Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

## Persistence in

- prayer,
- fasting,

- **sacrificing,**
- **sincerity—not length—**
- **study the Word,**
- **Rhemas of the Word—Scriptures the Holy Spirit uniquely applies to your situation as you read—He teaches you**
- **seek counsel**

# Psalm 119 Part 20: Afflicted but Remembering the Tender Mercies of God

RESH

**153** Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law. **154** Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word. **155** Salvation *is* far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes. **156** Great *are* thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments. **157** Many *are* my persecutors and mine enemies; *yet* do I not decline from thy testimonies. **158** I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word. **159** Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness. **160** Thy word *is* true *from* the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments *endureth* for ever.

# Psalm 119 Part 21: God's Testimony

SCHIN

**161** Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word. **162** I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil. **163** I hate and abhor lying: *but* thy law do I love. **164** Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments. **165** Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. **166** LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments. **167** My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly. **168** I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways *are* before thee.

# Psalm 119 Part 22: Longing for the Realization of Salvation

TAU

**169** Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word. **170** Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word. **171** My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes. **172** My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness. **173** Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts. **174** I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law *is* my delight. **175** Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me. **176** I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.