

Studying the Psalms

The Excellencies of God’s Word

Psalms 119

January 15, 2023

The Bible is Not a Theoretical Book

John 6:68

- Lamp and light. Psalms 119:105
- Sword. Ephesians 6:17
- Food for spiritual life. Hebrews 5:13-14
- Powerful to save. Romans 1:16; Hebrews 4:12
- Tool in the hands of the righteous that honors God and blesses mankind. 2 Timothy 2:15

2

Psalms 119

- A tribute to the Law and Word of God.
- Displays the excellencies of God’s word.
- “A manual for meditation and personal improvement.”

3

Psalms 119

- God’s will in relation to human character and conduct.
 - All but four verses speak directly of God’s word. (90, 121, 122, 132)
 - Strict form: 22 stanzas (8 verses) – Each verse begins with the Hebrew letter of that stanza.

4

Psalms 119

Synonyms

- Law (torah) 25 times: “a precept or statute” (Strong) The law; widest sense [1,18, 29, 34, 44, 51, 53, 55, 61, 70, 72 (law of Your mouth), 77, 85, 92, 97, 109, 113, 126, 136, 142, 150, 153, 163, 165, 174 (25x)]
- Testimonies 23 times: testimony, witness; always plural and always of laws as divine testimonies. (Brown Driver and Briggs Hebrew Lexicon). God’s commands witness to His character and attest to His will [2, 14, 22, 24, 31, 36, 46, 59, 79, 88, 95, 99, 111, 119, 125, 129, 138, 144, 146, 152, 157, 167, 168]

5

Psalms 119

Synonyms

- Judgments 18 Times: Judicial pronouncements [7, 13, 20, 30, 39, 52 (judgments of old), 62, 75, 84 (execute judgment), 102, 106 (righteous judgments), 108, 120, 137, 156, 160, 164, 175]
- Statutes 22 Times: Enactments of God; ordinances; rules or regulations [5, 8, 12, 16, 23, 26, 33, 48, 54, 64, 68, 71, 80, 83, 112, 117, 118, 124, 135, 145, 155, 171].
- Word 41 Times: Utterances of God (1 Peter 4:11) [9, 11, 16, 17, 25,28, 38, 41, 42, 43 (word of truth), 49, 50, 57 (words), 58, 65, 67, 74, 76, 81, 82, 89, 101, 103, 105, 107, 114, 116, 123 (righteous word), 130, 133, 139, 140, 147, 148, 154, 158, 160, 161, 162, 169, 170]

Psalms 119

Synonyms

- **Precepts** 21 Times: Rules of behavior. That which is appointed. [4, 15, 27, 40, 45, 56, 63, 69, 78, 87, 93, 94, 100, 104, 110, 128, 134, 141, 159, 168, 173]
- **Commandments** 21 Times: Directives, Rules [6, 10, 19, 21, 32, 35, 47, 48, 60, 66, 73, 88, 96, 98, 115, 127, 131, 143, 166, 172 (righteousness), 176]
- **Way(s)** 7 times: Prescribed lines of conduct, path or manner of conduct [3, 14, 15, 27, 30, 33, 37]
- **Truth** 5 Times: As opposed to False. Absolute standard [30, 43, 142, 151, 160]
- **Multi-faceted view of God’s word**
 - How the Psalmist sees himself in relation to it.
 - How it defines His relationship with God.

6

Psalms 19:7-11 NKJV

“7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;
8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;
9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
10 More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.”

7

Psalms 119

- **Divine blessings** (1-8)

2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, that seek him with the whole heart.

8

Psalms 119

- **Protection against sin** (9-16)

9 Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed (thereto) according to thy word.

10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: Oh let me not wander from thy commandments.

11 Thy word have I laid up in my heart, that I might not sin against thee.

9

Psalms 119

- **Fullness of Life** (17-24)

17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live; so will I observe thy word.

12

Psalms 119

- **Strength in Sorrows / Trials** (25-32)

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

13

Psalms 119

• Establishes Fear of God (33-40)

38 Confirm unto thy servant thy word, which (is in order) unto the fear of thee.

14

Psalms 119

• Salvation (41-48)

41 Let thy lovingkindness also come unto me, O Jehovah, even thy salvation, according to thy word.

16

Psalms 119

• Grants Hope (49-56)

49 Remember the word unto thy servant, because thou hast made me to hope.

17

Psalms 119

• God's Provisions and Care (57-64)

57 Jehovah is my portion: I have said that I would observe thy words.

18