

PSALM 119

THE EXCELLENCIES OF THE WORD OF GOD (Part 3)

Introduction

We continue and conclude our study of **Psalm 119** as we consider **vv. 121-176**

I) **Vv. 121-128 – Our Guarantee**

- A) vv. 121-122 – God is our surety [guarantee] in tough times
- B) v. 126 – “regarded Your law as void” – frustrate, make of none effect (cf. Isa. 55:11)
- C) v. 127 – is this our attitude toward God’s word? Love it more than fine gold?
- D) v. 128 – take a clear stand *for* what is right and *against* every false way

II) **Vv. 129-136 – Longing and Weeping**

- A) v. 130 – entrance = opening, disclosure of truth gives understanding to the naïve
- B) v. 131 – panting = strong desire for knowledge of God (Psa. 42:1; Matt. 5:6)
- C) v. 133 – our steps are directed by God (Jer. 10:23; Psa. 37:23; Prov. 3:5-6)
- D) v. 136 – do we care that men do not keep God’s law? Have we wept because of sin?

III) **Vv. 137-144 – Character of the Word**

- A) vv. 137-138 – law reflects character of the Lawgiver
- B) v. 141 – not matter who we are in the eyes of others, we are important to God
- C) v. 142 – God’s righteousness not a limited time deal; law is truth (Jn. 17:17)
- D) v. 143 – paradox of the suffering Christian – delight in that which we suffer for

IV) **Vv. 145-152 – God is Near**

- A) vv. 145-147, 151 – when we cry out, God is near! (Jas. 4:8)
- B) vv. 150 – wicked are not ignored, but watched and examined

V) **Vv. 153-160 – Being Revived**

- A) vv. 154, 156, 159 – the need to be revived [quicken] from sin, affliction, apathy
- B) v. 160 – entirety [sum] of God’s word is truth; judgments endure forever
 - 1) Cannot take just one part of God’s word and ignore, or reject, another part

VI) **Vv. 161-168 – A Priceless Treasure**

- A) v. 162 – Finding word is like finding great treasure (Matt. 13:44)
- B) v. 165 – No stumbling [falling away] when we love God’s word (Phil. 4:6-7)
- C) v. 166 – hoping and doing by faith (Jas. 1:22)

VII) **Vv. 169-176 – Seeking the Lost**

- A) v. 171 – we offer worship of praise because we know the truth
- B) v. 172 – all of God’s commandments are righteousness (v. 137; Rom. 1:17; 1 Jn. 3:7)
- C) v. 174 – long for heaven while we delight in God’s law now
- D) v. 176 – gone astray in sin (Isa. 53:6; 1 Pet. 2:25); are we sheep who will return to the fold?

Conclusion

Lessons learned from Psalm 119: (from Bill Jackson, *Book of Psalms*, Vol. 2, p. 327)

- ☞ Inspiration, authority, completeness, and beauty of the law of God.
- ☞ Human frailty, reality of sin, and man’s constant need of God’s law.
- ☞ The godly man’s feeling for God’s law – a delight, a rejoicing, and a love for it.
- ☞ The daily walk of the godly man, with his steps ordered by the Lord.
- ☞ The work of Satan, in that many adversaries are before God’s children, and thus the constant need for vigilance.
- ☞ The need to be in service, in praise, and in worship of God on a continual basis.
- ☞ The word of God as the standard – the truth – and a proper attitude toward truth causes one to hate every false way.