

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 119 – Walking In The Law Through Not Forgetting The Lord’s Commands (Psalms 119)

1. What will the undefiled in the way be doing?

“(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**” (Psalms 119:1-8).

* The way for us is Christ (**John 14:4-6**).

2. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?

“(9) Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? **by taking heed thereto according to thy word**” (Psalms 119:9).

* “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you” (**John 15:3**).

* “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (**II Timothy 3:15**).

3. What did the Psalmist do to keep from wandering and sinning against the Lord?

“(10) With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. (11) Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psalms 119:10-11).

* One must seek the Lord with all their hearts (**I Samuel 7:3, Jeremiah 3:10, Hosea 10:2, and Matthew 22:37**).

* We have to take God’s word and put it in our hearts (**Jeremiah 15:16 and Colossians 3:16**).

4. What did the Psalmist do so that he would not forget the word of God?

“(15) I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. (16) I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word” (Psalms 119:15-16).

* “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day” (Psalms 119:97).

5. Why did the Lord rebuke the proud?

“Thou hast rebuked the proud that are cursed, which do err from thy commandments” (Psalms 119:21).

* You cannot get away from God’s wrath when you err from His commandments (Psalms 119:118, Amos 2:4, and John 12:48).

6. When princes were against the Psalmist, what did he do?

“(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 counselors” (Psalms 119:23-24).

7. Did the Psalmist want God to teach him and help him understand His precepts?

Yes: “(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... (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” (Psalms 119:26-27; 33-34).

* We see the Psalmist wanting taught in verses **12, 26, 33, 64, 66, 68, 108, 124, and 135**.

* He requests understanding again in verses **27, 34, 73, 125, 144, and 169**.

* Remember, at this time God directly spoke to man (**II Peter 1:19-21**).

* NOW, we are expected to study God’s word and understand what He has fully revealed (**II Timothy 2:14-18; 3:16-17**; cf. **Ephesians 3:4; 5:17**).

8. What did the Psalmist choose, stick to, and run in the way of?

“(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” (Psalms 119:30-32).

9. What did the Psalmist want his eyes turned away from?

“Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way” (Psalms 119:37).

* Too often, mankind looks upon things that cause destruction, which really are things, which are vain [profitless] (**II Samuel 11:2, Proverbs 4:25, Proverbs 23:5, and I John 2:16**).

10. Was the Psalmist willing to speak of the Lord’s word in front of leaders?

“(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**” (Psalms 119:42-46).

11. What comforted the Psalmist?

“(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**” (Psalms 119:49-56; cf. **Romans 15:4 and I Thessalonians 4:18**).

12. What did the Psalmist do when he thought on his ways?

“(59) *I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.* (60) *I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments*” (Psalms 119:59-60).

* Why make haste (Proverbs 27:1)?

13. The Psalmist had gone astray in the past when facing affliction. What about in our context?

“*Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word*” (Psalms 119:67).

* How? “(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*” (Psalms 119:71-72).

* Later we read: “(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*” (Psalms 119:92-93).

14. Did the Psalmist realize that his Creator is the person he should be learning from?

Yes: “*Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments*” (Psalms 119:73).

15. How long is the word of God settled in heaven?

“*For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven*” (Psalms 119:89).

* See also: Psalms 119:152, Psalms 119:160, Matthew 5:18, Matthew 24:35, and I Peter 1:25.

16. How did the Psalmist obtain wisdom above his enemies, the ancients, and his teachers?

“(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*” (Psalms 119:97-100).

17. What caused the Psalmist to hate every false way?

“(104) *Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way...* (128) *Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way*” (Psalms 119:104; 128).

18. What lighted the path for the Psalmist?

“*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path...* (130) *The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple*” (Psalms 119:105; 130; cf. Proverbs 6:23).

19. Who did the Psalmist want to depart from him?

“Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God” (Psalms 119:115).

* Why? **Proverbs 1:10-19** and **I Corinthians 15:33**.

20. Was the Psalmist happy that people were not keeping God’s law?

No: *“Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law... My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words... I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word” (Psalms 119:136; 139; 158).*

21. Did the Psalmist ever shed tears or lose sleep over the word of God?

Yes: *“(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” (Psalms 119:145-148).*

22. Why is salvation far from the wicked?

“Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes” (Psalms 119:155).

23. Why couldn’t the persecution of princes cause the Psalmist to walk away from the word of God?

“(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” (Psalms 119:161-165).

24. What is said as the 119th Psalm concludes?

Apparently, the Psalmist had gone astray, returned to the word of God, and wants the Lord to save him: *“(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” (Psalms 119:169-176).*