September 29, 2021

Song of meditation: Open the eyes of my heart Lord

Psalm 119 (NKJV) – Life According to Your Word - Meditations on the Excellencies

of the Word of God. Read vv. 49-64.

Introduction: Psalm 119 is an example of what is called an "alphabetic acrostic." Each stanza—made up of 8 verses—begins each line with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet. For verses 1–8, every line begins with the letter "aleph," the first letter in the Hebrew alphabet. For verses 9–16, every line begins with the letter "Beth," the second letter in the Hebrew alphabet. The psalm follows this structure for all twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet. This style of poetry was often utilized to help with effective memorization.

Psalm 119 is a shadow of what has come in the person and work of Jesus Christ. We do not gain the blessed life through works of our own, but through the finished work of Jesus Christ, which is credited to us by faith. A disciplined reading of God's Word will ultimately lead us to the Word made flesh—Jesus.

Review and Reflect:

- 1. List the words found for God's Law in this text that we discussed in our opening introduction. (i.e., statues, law)
- 2. What does it mean to have hope and comfort even in suffering?
- 3. How does the Word of God sustain you?
- 4. What does it mean to for you to trust in the Lord?
- 5. What does it mean to "fear" the Lord?
- 6. Rewrite ZAYIN or HETH in your own words.

LIVE IT OUT

Pray: Set aside time this week to pray and ask God to teach you how to delight in God's Word. Incorporate verses Ps 119:33-48 into your prayers this week.

Memorize: Select 2–3 verses from the text we studied this week that encourage you to delight in God's word.

Journal: Sometime this week, sit down and write about what it means to you to delight in God's Word.

The Joy of God's Word

- 1. Allows us to know the mind of God.
- 2. Provides an established standard.
- 3. Provides strength, comfort, and peace.
- 4. Gives guidance and enlightenment.
- 5. Provides "advanced" education.
- 6. Helps the young cleanse their way.
- 7. Helps provide proper companions.

τ ZAYIN (Theme: Hope and Comfort in suffering)

- ⁴⁹ Remember the word to Your servant, Upon which You have caused me to hope.
- ⁵⁰ This *is* my comfort in my affliction, For Your word has given me life.
- ⁵¹ The proud have me in great derision, Yet I do not turn aside from Your law.
- ⁵² I remembered Your judgments of old, O LORD, And have comforted myself.
- ⁵³ Indignation has taken hold of me Because of the wicked, who forsake Your law.
- ⁵⁴ Your statutes have been my songs In the house of my pilgrimage.
- ⁵⁵ I remember Your name in the night, O LORD, And I keep Your law.
- ⁵⁶ This has become mine, Because I kept Your precepts.

n HETH (Theme: Committed to Obedience to God's Word))

- ⁵⁷ You are my portion, O LORD; I have said that I would keep Your words.
- ⁵⁸ I entreated Your favor with *my* whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word.
- ⁵⁹ I thought about my ways, And turned my feet to Your testimonies.
- ⁶⁰ I made haste, and did not delay To keep Your commandments.
- ⁶¹ The cords of the wicked have bound me, But I have not forgotten Your law.
- ⁶² At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, Because of Your righteous judgments.
- ⁶³ I am a companion of all who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts.
- ⁶⁴ The earth, O LORD, is full of Your mercy; Teach me Your statutes.

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