

God's Way to Happiness

PSALM 119

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The Psalms is the largest book in the Bible.

1. It is the most loved of any of its books.
2. There are more statements from the Psalms quoted in the New Testament than from any other Old Testament books.
3. Jesus died quoting a Psalm.
4. The central book of the Bible is Psalms.
5. It is quite largely a prophetic book. Acts 2:29,30. "David. . . being a prophet."
6. Psalms 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible.

PSALMS 119 IS UNIQUE

1. This is the longest chapter in the Bible. It is twice as long as any other Psalm. It is followed by 22 "Songs of Degrees." However, Psalm 119 is equal in bulk to them all. Other Psalms may be likened to pools or lakes, while this Psalm is like the Pacific Ocean.

2. It is the Christians ABC. That is, it is alphabetical in construction. The first thing that is noticed about this Psalm is that it is divided into 22 sections of 8 verses to each section. At the top of each of these sections is to be found a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This was so because originally each verse of the first section began with the first letter of the alphabet. Then in the second section each verse began with the second letter of the alphabet and so on through the 22 letters of that sacred alphabet.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega." Rev. 1:8-11. Jesus is the "Word made flesh." This alphabetical Psalm points to Him and the truth He revealed. The name "LORD" or Jehovah is found 22 times in Psalm 119. Jesus is the Lord and inspirer of these words. The Theme is the Word of the Lord. Ten different words are used. This is no doubt because the Ten Commandments, or God's "ten words" Exodus 34:28 margin, are the subject of this mighty Psalm.

Psalm 119:1. It reveals "the Way" of happiness. "Blessed" is also translated "happy." All people want to be happy, but very few find happiness, because they do not take the right "way." "The Way," is "in the Law of the Lord." Verse 1. It is the narrow way." Matthew 7:14. It is the "old path." Jeremiah 6:16. Holiness is older than sin. Life is older than death. Joy is older than sorrow. Follow God's truth rather than stupidity. "The Way" is "in the Law of the Lord." Verse 1. "I have rejoiced in the way of Thy testimonies." Verse 14. "I will run the way of Thy Commandments." Verse 32.

THE TEN TITLES OF GOD'S ETERNAL TEN.

While they refer to the whole Word of God, their primary application appears to be found in the Ten Commandments.

1. Way.

Psalm 119:1. Jesus said "I am the Way." Jesus had the Law written in His heart. Psalm 40:7 ,8. 2 Corinthians 3:1. What was written on stones in the Old Covenant is written in the heart under the New Covenant. Thus we become an "epistle of Christ." The law that was in the heart of Jesus, when written in our hearts, makes us like Jesus. 2 Corinthians 3:18. Jesus in our heart, brings the law into our heart. This is the only way to have the law written in our heart. Hebrews 8:10. Thus to walk in the law and to walk in Christ's way is the one and the same way. It is the blessed (happy) way. It is the way to glory. Revelation 22:14. It is the best way.

2. Law

Psalm 119:1. It comes from verb to point out. Our Lord points out His will in "His Royal Law," of Ten Commandments.

3. Testimonies

Psalm 119:2. This word is mentioned 22 times in this Psalm. This is "the Tables of Testimony," or the Ten Commandments. Exodus 31:18, 32:15,16. See Burnside Bible Lessons on "The Commandments."

4. Precepts

Psalm 119:4. These are directions given by an overseer. The "precepts" are God's way, His standards of right and wrong. This is found in His Moral law of Ten Commandments.

5. Statues

Psalm 119:5. The verb from which this formed means "to engrave, or inscribe." (See Strongs Concordance). This refers to the commandments that were "cut in stone." (See Spurgeon's Treasury of David, Volume 6, Page 10.) Thus "Statutes" must refer to the Ten Commandments which were engraved on the Tables of Stone and through Jesus are engraved in our heart.

6. Commandments

Psalm 119:6. This refers primarily to the Ten Commandments. While the word "Commandments" in Scripture may apply to other than the Ten Commandments, they always include the eternal Ten Commandments. They can be well called "God's Eternal Ten."

7. Judgments

Psalm 119:7. These refer to the decisions of the Judge. We are judged by Jesus. John 5:22. The Standard of the Judgment is "the Royal Law." James 2:8-10, Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14. We must have Jesus and let Him write His law in our hearts.

8. Word

Psalm 119:9. Says, "Forever, O Lord, Thy Word is settled in heaven." The Hebrew word translated "Word," is "Dabar" and is translated "Ten Commandments" in Deuteronomy 4:13 and Exodus 34:28. "They are settled in Heaven." The balances of God never need adjustment. They are settled, they never alter, they are not changed or abolished. They are "settled in Heaven." The margin for "Ten Commandments" is "Ten Words." Exodus 34:28. The Ten Commandments are the only words that God spoke in the hearing of a whole nation. They are the only words in the Bible that God Himself wrote. He wrote them on stone. Those "Eternal Ten Words" may be disputed here by many, but remember they are copy righted "in Heaven."

9. Righteousness

Psalm 119:40. Psalm 119:172, "All Thy commandments are righteousness." Verse 142, "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness," and "Thy law is the Truth." God's commandments are His standard of righteousness and can only be attained through Christ. Isaiah 51:6 says, "My righteousness shall not be abolished." The Ten Commandments are not abolished, never have been and never can be. Isaiah 51:7, "You that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is My law." Psalm 36:6 Thy righteousness is like the mountain of God (margin). God's standard of righteousness, "His Eternal Ten" are eternal. They are likened to "the everlasting hills."

10. Truth

Psalm 119:30. This is clearly stated to be God's Law. Psalm 119:142. "Thy law is the truth. Thus we see that God's Royal Law is mentioned in this greatest of Psalms under ten names. Each name refers primarily to the "Ten Commandments. It should also be noted that practically every verse in this Psalm refers to them. They are therefore "the Way" the "Happy Way," but we need Christ to enable us to walk in that way. That way leads home. "Blessed (Happy) are they that keep His commandments." Revelation 22:14.

Thus "the Way" of Christ, the way of His Ten Words, is the way of happiness. Psalm 119 begins with happiness. Christ began His first sermon, the "Sermon on the Mount" with the same theme of happiness. The Book of Psalms begins in the same theme, Psalm 1:1. The Bible closes with "Blessed are they that keep His commandments." Revelation 22:14. On the "last day" may you hear the words, "Come, you blessed." Matthew 25:34. Gems shine forth all through this 119th Psalm.

Psalm 119:130. "The entrance of Thy Words gives light." Light only comes from the One who is the Light of the world. His Word gives light. The Prince of Darkness hates light. Christ is the "Sun of Righteousness" and His Word is a light to our path.

Christ, the Author of the Word of God, is as the sun, while the Church is like a clock. The sun is sure. It is regular and certain in its motions. The clock so it is foolishness to trust the Church or the word of man, in preference to "the law and the testimony." Isaiah 8:20, "For if they speak not according to this word, there is no light in them." Heed the words of Christ and light will be given. Psalm 119:35 "Make me to go in the path of Thy commandments."

That path, "the Way" verse 1, is the path of fellowship with God. It is the path of holiness before God. It is the path of obedience following after God.

Psalm 119:146. "Save me that I may keep Thy testimonies." Margin. Christ saves that we may obey. His Name is Jesus "for He shall save His people from their sins." He saves, not in sin, but from sin. Sin is the transgression of God's law. 1 John 3:4. Therefore, as Jesus saves from sin, He saves us that we may keep the commandments. "The Way." Many conflicting voices cry in

this sunset hour of civilization, "Which is the way?" Some say "This" and some say "That." Some want a New way. Some want a shorter way, some an easier way.

Psalm 119:6. "All Thy commandments" is the way. A partial way will never satisfy the child of God. Even Herod could "do many things." Saul slew all the Amalekites but one, and that single exception cost him his throne and disfavor with God. To brush aside any of the commands of God and to reason that it may be transgressed, is to find out that soon the whole of God's Eternal Ten are set aside. May we ever pray, "Teach me, O LORD, the way of Thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end." Psalm 119:33.

Psalm 119

ALEPH

- 119:1 Blessed [are] the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.
119:2 Blessed [are] they that keep his testimonies, [and that] seek him with the whole heart.
119:3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.
119:4 Thou has commanded [us] to keep thy precepts diligently.
119:5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!
119:6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.
119:7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.
119:8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

BETH

- 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed [thereto] according to thy word.
119:10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.
119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
119:12 Blessed [art] thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.
119:13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.
119:14 I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as [much as] in all riches.
119:15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
119:16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

GIMEL

- 119:17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, [that] I may live, and keep thy word.
119:18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.
119:19 I [am] a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.
119:20 My soul breaks for the longing [that it hath] unto thy judgments at all times.
119:21 Thou has rebuked the proud [that are] cursed, which do err from thy commandments.
119:22 Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies.
119:23 Princes also did sit [and] speak against me: [but] thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.
119:24 Thy testimonies also [are] my delight [and] my counselors.

DALETH

- 119:25 My soul cleaves unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.
119:26 I have declared my ways, and thou heard me: teach me thy statutes.
119:27 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.
119:28 My soul melts for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.
119:29 Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously.
119:30 I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid [before me].
119:31 I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.
119:32 I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shall enlarge my heart.

HE

- 119:33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it [unto] the end.
119:34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with [my] whole heart.
119:35 Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.
119:36 Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.
119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; [and] quicken thou me in thy way.
119:38 Establish thy word unto thy servant, who [is devoted] to thy fear.
119:39 Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments [are] good.
119:40 Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.

VAU

- 119:41 Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, [even] thy salvation, according to thy word.
119:42 So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproaches me: for I trust in thy word.
119:43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.
119:44 So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.
119:45 And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.
119:46 I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.
119:47 And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.
119:48 My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.

ZAIN

- 119:49 Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou has caused me to hope.
119:50 This [is] my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.
119:51 The proud have had me greatly in derision: [yet] have I not declined from thy law.
119:52 I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.
119:53 Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law.
119:54 Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.
119:55 I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.
119:56 This I had, because I kept thy precepts.

CHETH

- 119:57 [Thou art] my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words.
119:58 I entreated thy favor with [my] whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word.
119:59 I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.
119:60 I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.
119:61 The bands of the wicked have robbed me: [but] I have not forgotten thy law.
119:62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.
119:63 I [am] a companion of all [them] that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.
119:64 The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.

TETH

- 119:65 Thou has dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.
119:66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.
119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.
119:68 Thou [art] good, and does good; teach me thy statutes.
119:69 The proud have forged a lie against me: [but] I will keep thy precepts with [my] whole heart.
119:70 Their heart is as fat as grease; [but] I delight in thy law.
119:71 [It is] good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.
119:72 The law of thy mouth [is] better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

JOD

- 119:73 Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.
119:74 They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word.
119:75 I know, O LORD, that thy judgments [are] right, and [that] thou in faithfulness has afflicted me.
119:76 Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.
119:77 Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law [is] my delight.
119:78 Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: [but] I will meditate in thy precepts.
119:79 Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.
119:80 Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

CAPH

- 119:81 My soul faints for thy salvation: [but] I hope in thy word.
119:82 Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?
119:83 For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; [yet] do I not forget thy statutes.
119:84 How many [are] the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?
119:85 The proud have dug pits for me, which [are] not after thy law.
119:86 All thy commandments [are] faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.
119:87 They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts.
119:88 Quicken me after thy loving kindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.

LAMED

- 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.
119:90 Thy faithfulness [is] unto all generations: thou has established the earth, and it abides.
119:91 They continue this day according to your ordinances: for all [are] thy servants.
119:92 Unless thy law [had been] my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.
119:93 I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou has quickened me.
119:94 I [am] yours, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.
119:95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: [but] I will consider thy testimonies.
119:96 I have seen an end of all perfection: [but] thy commandment [is] exceeding broad.

MEM

- 119:97 O how love I thy law! It [is] my meditation all the day.
119:98 Thou through thy commandments has made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.
119:99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies [are] my meditation.
119:100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.
119:101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.
119:102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou has taught me.
119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! [yea, sweeter] than honey to my mouth!
119:104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

NUN

- 119:105 Thy word [is] a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
119:106 I have sworn, and I will perform [it], that I will keep thy righteous judgments.
119:107 I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.
119:108 Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments.
119:109 My soul [is] continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law.
119:110 The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.
119:111 Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they [are] the rejoicing of my heart.
119:112 I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, [even unto] the end.

SAMECH

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

AIN

- 119:121 I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors.
119:122 Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me.
119:123 Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness.
119:124 Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes.
119:125 I [am] thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.
119:126 [It is] time for [thee], LORD, to work: [for] they have made void thy law.
119:127 Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.
119:128 Therefore I esteem all [thy] precepts [concerning] all [things to be] right; [and] I hate every false way.

PE

- 119:129 Thy testimonies [are] wonderful: therefore does my soul keep them.
119:130 The entrance of thy words gives light; it gives understanding unto the simple.
119:131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.
119:132 Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou uses to do unto those that love thy name.
119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.
119:134 Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.
119:135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.
119:136 Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

TZADDI

- 119:137 Righteous [art] thou, O LORD, and upright [are] thy judgments.
119:138 Thy testimonies [that] thou has commanded [are] righteous and very faithful.
119:139 My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.
119:140 Thy word [is] very pure: therefore thy servant loves it.
119:141 I [am] small and despised: [yet] do not I forget thy precepts.
119:142 Thy righteousness [is] an everlasting righteousness, and thy law [is] the truth.
119:143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: [yet] thy commandments [are] my delights.
119:144 The righteousness of thy testimonies [is] everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

KOPH

- 119:145 I cried with [my] whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes.
119:146 I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.
119:147 I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word.
119:148 Mine eyes prevent the [night] watches, that I might meditate in thy word.
119:149 Hear my voice according unto thy loving kindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment.
119:150 They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law.
119:151 Thou [art] near, O LORD; and all thy commandments [are] truth.
119:152 Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou has founded them forever.

RESH

- 119:153 Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law.
119:154 Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.
119:155 Salvation [is] far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.
119:156 Great [are] thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments.
119:157 Many [are] my persecutors and mine enemies; [yet] do I not decline from thy testimonies.
119:158 I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.
119:159 Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy loving kindness.
119:160 Thy word [is] true [from] the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments [endures] forever.

SCHIN

- 119:161 Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart stands in awe of thy word.
119:162 I rejoice at thy word, as one that finds great spoil.
119:163 I hate and abhor lying: [but] thy law do I love.
119:164 Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.
119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.
119:166 LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.
119:167 My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.
119:168 I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways [are] before thee.

TAU

- 119:169 Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.
119:170 Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.
119:171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou has taught me thy statutes.
119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments [are] righteousness.
119:173 Let your hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts.
119:174 I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law [is] my delight.
119:175 Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.
119:176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.

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