

Sunday Night Message

September 4, 2016



























Psalms 119:105 – 112 - *The Word of God Will Light Life's Path*

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 119:105 - 112

Introduction

We are continuing our examination of the longest Psalm as well as the longest chapter of the Bible. As we discussed last week, this psalm is a Hebrew acrostic where every eight verses are separated into sections where the first letter of each verse begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The first eight verses each begin with “Aleph”, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Verses 9 – 16 all begin with “Beth”; verses 17 – 24 all begin with Gimel; and, so on.

									
Yod (Y)	Tet (T)	Chet (Ch)	Zayin (Z)	Vav (V)	He (H)	Dalet (D)	Gimel (G)	Bet (B/V)	Alef (silent)
									
Ayin (silent)	Samech (S)	Nun (N)	Nun (N)	Mem (M)	Mem (M)	Lamed (L)	Khaf (Kh)	Kaf (K/Kh)	
									
Tav (T)	Shin (Sh/S)	Resh (R)	Qof (Q)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Feh (F)	Peh (P/F)		

We do not know the writer of this psalm, though we think it must have been a “high profile” person, perhaps a king or a priest. Nor do we know the historical context. There is no doubt, however, as to the theme of the psalm. 170 out of the 175 verses in this psalm speak directly regarding the Word of God. The writer to this psalm is expressing his love and devotion to the Word of God, and is encouraging us to do the same.

Phillips has said regarding the anonymity of the writer:

Throughout this psalm we are made aware that the singer is in trouble. We would like to know who he was—David, perhaps, or Daniel, or Hezekiah. But since he has remained

anonymous (making this psalm one of the “orphan psalms” of the Hebrew hymn book) the Holy Spirit intends his sufferings to be of universal significance. Any beleaguered saint of God can put his or her name at the head of this psalm and sing it themselves.¹

Introduction

"NUN."

“Nun” is the fourteenth letter in the Hebrew alphabet, and the fourteenth section of this psalm. Every verse of in this 8 verse section begins with the letter “Nun”.

The theme in this section is the provision of light for a lifetime through the principles found in the Word of God.

Life is described often as a path. We often times are not sure where to go next on life’s path, or what we should do next. The Bible gives us the principles that we need to see clearly where we should be going. The Light of the Word of God is sufficient to brightly illuminate our path all throughout our lives, so that when our race is finished on this earth, we will be where we are supposed to be.

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” (Psalm 119:105)

John Phillips states that a well-lit path does not necessarily mean that God will reveal every specific aspect of His perfect will for us, but rather, the Word of God gives us the general principles that are needed to help us in every situation that will come our way.

However, the Word of God is also a lamp to our feet, which will reveal where to place our next step. This means that as we are contemplating where to go next, or what to do next, God’s Holy Spirit brings to mind a specific Bible principle that will show us the way that we should go.

“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.” (Psalm 119:130)

“The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.” (Psalm 19:8)

“But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.” (Proverbs 4:18)

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:” (2 Peter 1:19)

¹ Phillips, J. (2012). Exploring Psalms 89–150: An Expository Commentary (Vol. 2, Ps 119:81–88). Kregel Publications; WORDsearch Corp.

"For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:" (Proverbs 6:23)

Light not only shows us the right path, it will reveal to us the wrong path, and it will expose the many dangers that may present themselves along the way.

"I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments." (Psalm 119:106)

Illumination is not enough, however. We must apply what we learn from the light.

The Bible provides plenty of light, but we still must choose the light over the darkness.

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19 KJV)

The psalmist determined – he swore – that he would follow the light. Of course, the only One who ever followed the light perfectly was the Lord Jesus Christ.

"I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word." (Psalm 119:107)

The Light will show you what to do when you are struggling in affliction. The best thing that you or I could do when we are facing opposition would be to pray and then immerse ourselves in the Word of God looking for direction.

"Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments." (Psalm 119:108)

The psalmist is praising the Lord for direction that He has given him through life generally, and for the deliverance that God has given Him through the especially difficult times.

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." (Hebrews 13:15)

Notice in these last four verses of this section, we see the psalmist's lifelong dependence on the Word of God.

"My soul is continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law." (Psalm 119:109)

Notice the phrase *"I do not forget thy law"*. Believers in days of old did not have pocket Bibles with them or Bibles on their phones. They remembered the Word of God. They had to pay attention to the person reading the scroll, then hear it, understand it, and remember it.

One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit is to help us remember the Word, which we have heard.

"These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:25-26)

"I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you." (John 16:12-15)

"The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts." (Psalm 119:110)

Notice here that the psalmist has been attacked by those who would pull him off of the path of light. Yet, he stayed true the path.

"Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart."
(Psalm 119:111)

"I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, even unto the end." (Psalm 119:112)

Illustrate – My brother George – “How long will your Christianity last?” – Salvation is forever. Sanctification is a lifelong process. The Christian life is a road that will take us into eternity. It is not just a passing fad. We are in this for the long haul. The Word of God will supply all of the light – all of the life giving principles that we need to get us to the end of the path, and then finally take us into eternity.

The key, however, is to immerse ourselves in the Word of God on a daily basis, and then weekly through the preaching and teaching services. And then we need to put into practice what we learn:

"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." (James 1:21-25)