

Sunday Night Message

June 19, 2016

Psalms 119:41 - 48

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 119:41 - 48

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	Tet	Chet	Zayin	Vav	He	Dalet	Gimel	Bet	Alef
(Y)	(T)	(Ch)	(Z)	(V/W)	(H)	(D)	(G)	(B/V)	(silent)
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
									
Ayin	Samech	Nun	Nun	Mem	Mem	Lamed	Khaf	Kaf	
(silent)	(S)	(N)	(N)	(M)	(M)	(L)	(Kh)	(K/Kh)	
70	60	50	50	40	40	30	30	20	
									
Tav	Shin	Resh	Qof	Tsadeh	Tsadeh	Feh	Peh		
(T)	(Sh/S)	(R)	(Q)	(Ts)	(Ts)	(F)	(P/F)		
400	300	200	100		90		80		

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.

“VAU”

This Hebrew letter makes the v or w sound. There are three of these on the “Monster” energy drink cans. Some have said that because this letter is the sixth letter in the Hebrew alphabet that the three letters on the “Monster” can actually represent 666.

Every one of these sections within Psalm 119 seem to portray a central theme rather than repeating isolated thoughts. When I first read this Vau section of Psalm 119, I notice that in the first verse the psalmist is crying for God’s mercy – salvation – according to the Word of God. I think in this section we see not only the theme of salvation but also the progression that takes place in the life of a believer once they are saved.

I **Salvation (v. 41)**

It All Begins with Salvation

“Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, even thy salvation, according to thy word.” (Psalm 119:41)

Salvation happens when the lost sinner under conviction by the Spirit of God places his faith in the Word of God, particularly what the Bible teaches regarding the gospel – the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The word of God communicates the gospel:

“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” (John 3:16-18)

The Word of God tells us that we are sinners:

“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: ... For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” (Romans 3:10, 23)

The Word of God tells us about the gift of a Saviour:

*"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
(Romans 5:8)*

*"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
(Romans 6:23)*

The Word of God tells us about placing our faith in the Saviour:

"But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:8-13)

The Word of God gives us the faith to believe:

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17)

Without the Word of God there is no salvation.

II Sharing Christ (vs. 42, 43, 46)

The Next Step is to Share Salvation with Others

"So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word." (Psalm 119:42)

"And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments." (Psalm 119:43)

"I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed." (Psalm 119:46)

After we are saved, the best thing that we can do is share the Lord with others:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath

committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:" (1 Peter 3:15)

III Submission to the Word (vs. 44, 45, 47, & 48)

If we are saved and concerned about others, we will want to live for the Lord, obediently to the Word of God

"So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever." (Psalm 119:44)

"And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts." (Psalm 119:45)

"And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved." (Psalm 119:47)

"My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes." (Psalm 119:48)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:1-2)

Our lives need to reflect God. When our lives don't line up with our profession we send a mixed message that will not effectively reach people with the gospel.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)