**BOOK OF CHAPTER 119** (part 1)

Inspired songs and poems that depict the heart of the saints in each season of life.

#### Our Three Questions

- 1. What does it say?
  - Authorial intent to intended audience
- 2. What does it mean?
  - Timeless theological truth
- 3. How does it apply?
  - Landing it in our lives

#### Aleph

<sup>1</sup> Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! <sup>2</sup> Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, <sup>3</sup> who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways! 4 You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

<sup>5</sup> Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! <sup>6</sup> Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. 7 I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules. 8 I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

#### Beth

<sup>9</sup> How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. <sup>10</sup> With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! 11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! 13 With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. 14 In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. <sup>15</sup> I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. 16 I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

#### Psalm 119 Overview

- Poem about God's Word
- An acrostic It's very long
- Wisdom literature
- The disposition towards God's Word
  - **○The command: Deut. 6:1-9**
  - The object: John 5:39-47

#### Psalm 119 Overview

#### Aleph

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who walk in the law of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup> Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, let me not wander from your

who seek him with their whole heart,

<sup>3</sup> who also do no wrong,

but walk in his ways!

<sup>4</sup> You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

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 I will delight in your statutes;
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#### Psalm 119 Overview

- Seeking God's Word
- Do what it says
- Delight in it
- Declare it

<sup>2</sup> Blessed are *those* who keep his testimonies, *who* seek him with their whole heart,

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<sup>10</sup> With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

<sup>5</sup>Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! <sup>6</sup>Then I shall not be put to shame, <u>having my eyes fixed</u> on all your commandments...

11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.
12 Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

<sup>15</sup> I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

<sup>16</sup> I will delight in your statutes; <u>I will</u> not forget your word.

- Seeking God's Word
  - olt is relational
  - olt is critically important
  - olt is disciplined

- Seeking God's Word
- Do what it says
- Delight in it
- Declare it

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<sup>5</sup>Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

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<sup>8</sup> I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me! <sup>9</sup> How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

<sup>10</sup> With my whole heart I seek you; <u>let</u> me not wander from your commandments!

<sup>11</sup> I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

- Do what it says
  - OHelps us know what to do
  - oThe word helps keep us
    - Submission is relational

- Seeking God's Word
- Do what it says
- Delight in it
- Declare it

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- Delight in it
  - ODefending vs. Delighting
  - **Giving it a fair chance**

# Declaring

- Seeking God's Word
- Do what it says
- Delight in it
- Declare it

## Declaring

12 Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!
13 With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth.

- Seeking God's Word
- Do what it says
- Delight in it
- Declare it

#### John 5:37-40

<sup>37</sup> And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, 38 and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

#### John 5:37-40

39 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

#### Questions

- Did anything jump out to you in the text or sermon?
- In these first 16 verses, the psalmist restates 4 big ideas.
  - O He seeks God's word. How do you feel like you're doing with the discipline of reading Scripture? Are you happy with the regularity with which you are reading? If necessary, what changes do you want to make?
  - O He submits to God's word. Are there things in God's word that command you to change something you are doing presently? If so, what do you want to change and how are you going to do it?
  - O He delights in God's word. How do you feel like you are doing in this area? Does reading the word feel like a chore or a treat? Try asking the Lord to bring His word to life in prayer and reading a larger portion of the text, if you are looking or growth here. If your group wants this, it might be helpful to take some time aside to pray.
  - O He determines to declare it. Do you find it easy or difficult to talk about God's word? Why do you think that is? If you want to see change in this area, what do you think you can do diffirently?