

Sermon Notes

“Lessons from Psalm 119”

Introduction:

10 things to know about Ps119 before you read it this week:

1. Importance

It just may be the most important Psalm.

Psalms 1, 19, 119 are “Torah Psalms”

The longest chapter in the Bible shows how important the Bible is.

2. Structure:

A) Alphabetical acrostic

Why would the psalmist use an alphabetical acrostic?

1) to show that there is order to life

2) to be comprehensive

3) to make it easier to memorize

B) 119:1–3 is a blessing; the rest of the verses are prayers (except 115)

C) At least eight synonyms for torah/law

3. We should delight in, desire, and long for God's word.

delight [119:14, 16, 47]

desire [119:72]

long for [119:40]

What if we don't delight in the Bible?

- Own the problem.
- Repent and ask God to change you.
- Acquire a taste for scripture through perseverance.

4. God's word represents and is identified with God.

Lift up hands [119:48]

Delight in; love [119:47]

Joy in [119:111]

Trust in [119:42]

Hope in [119:81]

Seek [119:94]

Why should we delight in God's word? Because it's God's word; it shows us his heart and will.

The psalmist loves God's word because he loves God.

5. We must depend on God to understand and obey his word.

[119:36-37]

[119:18]

[119:10]

This is not about legalism.

6. This chapter is very relevant: he lived in a time like ours.

[119:21-23]

[119:136]

[119:113]

7. In hard times run to God's word, not away from it.

[119:83, 92, 157]

[119:50]

8. There are great blessings/benefits in obeying the Bible.

Obedience is: "Right away, all the way, with a happy heart"

Blessings:

[119:99-100] wisdom

[119:105] knowing God's will

[119:165] peace

freedom

comfort

life

9. This psalm should humble us.

[119:131, 136, 164]

We see how far we have to go, so we seek God's help and depend on God instead of self.

We also see the direction we need to go.

10. We have a choice to make.

[119:106] I will obey.

[119:112] I will incline my heart.

[119:15-16] I will meditate on God's statutes and delight in them.

One of my favorite verses: [Ezra 7:10]

Conclusion: