

Women in the Word
Of
FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

“INTIMACY WITH GOD” by Cynthia Heald

PART THREE - The Essentials of Intimacy
Lesson 9 “Love for God’s Word”

November 16, 2021

Psalm 119 - “A Song of Praise to the Word of God”

Psalm 119 is an acrostic using the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet divided into 22 sections of 8 verses each totally 176 verses.

Blue Letter Bible - “Psalm 119 is more like a string of pearls where each pearl has equal, but independent value.”

God’s Word - law, decree, statutes, commands, salvation, word and promise.

Theme examples:

Psalm 119:1-8 Blessings of walking in God’s Word.

Psalm 119: 1 Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.

Psalm 119:9-16 God’s Word as a protection from sin.

Psalm 119:9 How can a young man keep his way pure, by living according to your word.

Psalm 119:17-25 God’s Word as a source of comfort.

Psalm 119:24 Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors.

Expressions of the Psalmist’s love for God’s Word:

Vs. 7 “I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws.”

Vs. 10a “I will seek you with all my heart.”

Vs. 11a “I have hidden your word in my heart.”

Vs. 12 “Praise be to you, O Lord; teach me your decrees.”

Vs. 18 “Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.”

Vs. 14 “I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.”

Vs. 16 “I delight in your decrees, I will not neglect your Word.”

Who wrote Psalm 119?

David, a man after God's own heart?

A post-exilic Babylonian captive, maybe a priest?

A young Babylonian captive who suffered through the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem, attack and capture into captivity (2 Kings 25), The time of the Fall of Jerusalem?

Psalm 119:134a, "Redeem me from the oppression of men."

Psalm 119:143, "Trouble and distress come upon me."

Psalm 119: 141, "Though I am lowly and despised."

Jeremiah, the Prophets warning (Jeremiah 39)

King Zedekiah's doom, attack on Jerusalem and captivity of the people (2 Kings 25).

Psalm 119:111, "Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy in my heart."

Psalm 119:19a, "I am a stranger on the earth."

Psalm 119:25a, "I am low in the dust."

Psalm 119:165, "Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble."

Our Psalmist used various "word pictures" to portray and describe his deep devoted love for God's Word.

God's Word is treasure:

Psalm 119:14, "I rejoice in following your statutes, as one rejoices in great riches."

Psalm 119:72, "The Law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold."

Psalm 119:127, "Because I love your commands more than gold, more than pure gold."

Psalm 119:162, "I rejoice in your promise, like one who finds great spoil."

Matthew 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

God's Word is a companion and counselor.

Psalm 119:19, "I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me."

Psalm 119:22, "Remove from me scorn and contempt, for I keep your statutes."

Psalm 119:24, "Your statutes are my delight, they are my counselors."

Hebrew-English Bible, Psalm 119:24, "For your decrees are my delight, my intimate companions."

Psalm 119:51, "The arrogant mock me without restraint, but I do not turn from your law."

Psalm 119:95, "The wicked are waiting to destroy me, but I will ponder your statutes."

Hebrew-English Bible: Psalm 119:15, "I study your precepts, I regard your ways; I take delight in your laws; I will not neglect your word."

God's Word is a light:

Psalm 119:105: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

Psalm 119:130: "The unfolding of your words give light; it gives understanding to the simple."

Psalm 119:104, "I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path."

Psalm 119:89, "Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens."

Psalm 119:98, "Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me."

1 John 1:5: "God is light; in him there is no darkness at all."

God's Word is the source of hope.

Psalm 119:54-56: "Your decrees are the theme of my song, wherever I lodge. In the night I remember your name, O Lord, and I will keep your law. This has been my practice; I obey your precepts."

Psalm 119:172: "May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commandments are righteous."

Hebrew-English Bible:

Psalm 119:54, "Your laws are a source of strength to me wherever I dwell."

God's Word is like honey:

Psalm 119:103 "How sweet are your words to my taste; sweeter than honey to my mouth."

Hebrew-English Bible: "How pleasing is your Word to my palate, sweeter than honey."

God's Word brings happiness (blessed):

Psalm 119:1-3 "Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart. They do nothing wrong; they walk in his ways."

Philippians 4:8-9, "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Whatever you have learned from me or received or heard from me or seen in me, put into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." Peace of God: The results from living by faith.

The Psalmist had the Torah (first 5 books of the Bible).

We have the entire word of God (the Bible).

Psalm 119:18, "Open my eyes that I might see the wonderful things in your law."

Study it - Psalm 119:27 Hebrew-English Bible, "Make me understand the way of Your precepts, that I may study Your wondrous acts."

Obeys it - Psalm 119:9b, "By living according to your word."

Store it - Psalm 119:11a, "I have hidden your word in my heart."

Share it - Psalm 119:13, "With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth."

Delight in it - Psalm 119:14-16, "I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."

Taken from Arno C. Gaebelin's book, "The Psalms"

"A careful reading of every section and meditation on the different verses will bring every child of God spiritual blessing. We can mention only a few of the blessed things spoken as to the Word of the Lord."

"Those who walk according to His Word are blessed (v.1); they do no iniquity (v.3); walking according to His Word does not leave ashamed (v.6); The Word cleanses (v.9); when hidden in the heart, it keeps one from sinning (v.11); It quickens and gives strength (v.25,28); Mercies and salvation come through His Word (v.41); It is the ground of hope (v.45); It is comfort in affliction (v.50); The Lord deals well with His servant according to His Word (v.65); merciful kindness and comfort according to His Word are obtained by prayer (v.76); His Word is forever settled in the heavens (v.89); It is sweet unto the taste, sweeter than honey (v.103); It is a lamp unto the feet and a light for the path (v.105); Through His Word we know Him as hiding place and shield (v.114); It upholds the trusting heart (v.116); the entrance of it giveth light (v.130); and understanding to the simple. By it we can order our steps (v.133); no iniquity will have dominion over us. It is beloved because it is very pure (v.140). It is true from the beginning and all its righteous judgments endure forever (v.160). It produces great joy (v.162). It leads to praise and worship (v.164). Great peace comes from it (v.165)."

"Such are a few of the inspired sayings in praise of the Word of God, and every believer finds them true as he is reading His Word, trusting in it and walking according to His Word."

November 23 - no meeting

November 30 - Part 4, "The Fruit of Intimacy"