

Psalm 119

A Verse by Verse Study

LAMED

Ox Goad, Correction, Learning

89 Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

- Very few Christians would admit outright that they argue or disagree with God's Word,
 - yet our lives are resounding testimonies that we probably disagree with God's Word more that we agree.
 - **Amos 3:3 says, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"**
 - God asks this question of Israel after He reminds them that He had chosen them and informing them He would have to punish their iniquities.
 - How many times do we see in the Bible God's children walking differently than they had been instructed to do by God?
 - There are a few words we can use to describe this phenomenon.
 - Rebellion, disobedience, hard hearted, stiff-necked, even anti-christ are a few adjectives we could ascribe to Israel.
 - We could put these before any one of our names to describe our character of what the Bible refers to as "conversation" at many time in our own lives.
 - WE are always wrong when we walk differently than instructed in God's Word...**ALWAYS!**

- Praise God for his willingness to correct.
 - And ox doesn't always go where the master wants, so he must administer a course correction.
 - We would be wise to surrender to the understanding that God's word is settled forever in a place that will last forever.
 - It will not change, therefore we must!
 - Praise Jesus, the God man who says, "take my yoke upon you".
 - **God the Father wouldn't have to give a course correction if I would remain "yoked" with Jesus.**

90 Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

- God himself says, "I am the Lord, I change not;" in Malachi 3:6.
- He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.
- If God's Word is settled forever, then He who settled it is Eternal!
 - I now can know the same God that called Abraham friend.
 - Who walk with Adam and Eve.
 - Who enjoyed Enoch's company so much, He translated him.
 - I can rest assured, if He tarries, that my children's children may know the very same God!
- The only thing that will ever stop God from being faithful to all generations and any who call on Him is God

91 They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants.

- The elements are servant to the Creator God!
- They can no sooner cease to exist of their own accord than time itself...which also is servant to He who knows no time!
- So, "They", which are God's Words, hold existence together
- And God keeps His Word!

92 Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.

- People who love the Lord mess up.
 - Notice David says here, "had been my delights".
 - This is a past tense statement.
 - People with the best testimony and best intentions struggle with many sins;
 - such as covetousness, lustfulness, bitterness, anger, and malice towards others.
 - All these are contrary to what God has made known to us that he wants to work in us.
 - The wonderful thing is that if you've ever truly delighted in God's word,
 - then while in in affliction (sin induced chastisement) we can look back at how our lives were filled with peace and joy when His word was our delight.
 - We can repent, make things right, and find that delight again!

93 I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.

- Without God's Word we would not know life.
- We truly would be trapped by sin unto death.
 - As a child of God who has been gifted eternal life, to ever choose anything other than life would be CRAZY!
 - Yet the life most of us choose is the redundant Christian life.
 - A life without any real victory over self and sin.
 - This is caused by forgetting (neglecting) God's precepts.
 - These are those convictions placed on our lives so we might better serve our God.
 - The Bible does so much more than just provide us with salvation from sin's penalty...it gives us life free from sin's power.

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Colossians 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

94 I am thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.

- If we've already been saved and quickened, why do we ask to be saved again?
 - Because we are sheep! Forgetful, foolish, trouble finding sheep...
 - There is saved from sin's penalty which happens when we call on Jesus and was finished on the cross at His death
 - Then there is saved from sin's power which happens when we call on Jesus after we die to ourselves so He might give us life through His resurrection

1 Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

- We are His!
 - His to save from ourselves.
 - So, like the psalmist we MUST seek His Word (His Voice)

John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one-fold, and one shepherd.

- Sheep sometimes follow the wrong voice.
 - How Wonderful to have the Good Shepherd, who never left us;
 - Who even comes looking for us and allows us to hear His Sweet Voice once again, so we might choose to follow.
- As long as there is breath in our lungs, we can call out..." Save Me!"

95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I will consider thy testimonies.

- I would daresay very few of us have a spiritual nemesis (besides Satan) who is doing their best to lay traps and snares to catch us in.
 - However, do not be deceived and take Satan for granted, he is very good at getting a Christian snared, but he cannot without our help.
 - Pray God helps us regard His testimonies over ours.

96 I have seen an end of all perfection: but thy commandment is exceeding broad.

- **Psalm 53:3** says, "**Every one of them is gone back: they are all together become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no not one.**"
 - Paul shares this sentiment in his letter to the church at Rome in chapter **3:12**, "**They are all gone out of the**

way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one."

- There is not one of us who haven't "gone astray".
- None that can say they have never "gone back" and become filthy once again.
- We all, like David, have seen the end of our own perfection; but God's Word knows how to deal with it!
- There is no subject God's word doesn't cover.
- No sin negates nor nullifies Grace & Mercy!
- Our main problem is we know this but are too proud or perverse to let God's Word show "a light unto my path".
- Then when our Loving Heavenly Father attempts a course correction, we buck against the "goad" and disrupt the work that must get done...