

## Our Daily Walk & Practice

### *Psalm 119:105-112*

Pastor Michael Lynn / West Hampden Baptist Church

*February 15, 2023 p.m.*

Introduction: This section of Psalm 119 (with each verse beginning with the 14<sup>th</sup> letter of the Hebrew alphabet, “*nun*”) speaks of using the Word of God personally, practically, & persistently. We are then enabled to see our way & where to step. Wiersbe suggests the theme of these verses is “faithfulness,” that we are to have faithful feet (:105), faithful words (:106-108), a faithful memory (:119-110), & a faithful heart (:111-112). Verse 105 is perhaps the most familiar in this section, or even in the whole Psalm, “*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, & a light unto my path.*” It is suggested that such guidance is not written to astound us with its brilliance, but to guide us by its instruction. Consider with me tonight how we should use the Word of God personally, practically, & persistently.

#### I. Using the Word of God **personally** (:105-107)

##### A. The direction of the psalmist (:105) >

1. God’s Word is his “*lamp*” (or lantern) to his feet (for each step).
2. God’s Word provides “*light*” for his path.

Summary: “It is true the head needs illumination, but even more the feet need direction, else head & feet may both fall into a ditch” (Spurgeon).

##### B. The determination of the psalmist (:106) >

1. Indicated by “*I have sworn*” – “He intimates that he had solemnly pledged himself to God not to alter his determination” (Calvin).
  - a. Today’s vows of “religion”: Baptism shows one’s identification; Communion shows one’s consecration.
  - b. The psalmist’s voice of resolve: He will keep God’s “*righteous judgments*” – “God’s commands are His judgments, the dictates of infinite wisdom” (Henry).
2. Indicated by “*I will perform*” – He is steadfastly purposed.
3. Indicated by “*I will keep*” – He is settled, his heart is fixed.

Summary: Paraphrased as “I have solemnly resolved & bound myself by the most sacred ties, which I will never break, but do now confirm” (Patrick).

##### C. The dedication of the psalmist (:107) >

1. “*Afflicted*” can refer to physical persecution or being spiritually humbled.
2. “*Quicken me*” speaks of his desire to be revived, compared to those who would wish to die.  
Illustration: “There is a need be for the afflictions of the Lord’s people. The stones of the spiritual temple cannot be polished or fitted to their place without the strokes of the hammer. The gold cannot be purified without the furnace. The vine must be pruned for greater fruitfulness” (Plumer).

#### II. Using the Word of God **practically** (:108-110)

##### A. In sacrifice (:108) >

1. “*Accept, I beseech Thee*” – “What a wonder of grace that the Lord will accept anything of such unworthy ones as we are!” (Spurgeon).
2. “*Freewill offerings*” – Hebrews 13:15-16 speak of the sacrifice of praise, practice, & proclamation.
3. “*Teach me*” – indicates his humility; his need of Divine instruction.

B. In surrender (:109) >

1. “*My soul...in my hands*” – his life in danger; peril.
2. “*Yet I do not forget Thy law*” – he loved it, memorized it, & practiced it.
3. The greater the persecution, the greater should be our perseverance.

C. In steadfastness (:110) >

1. “*Snare*” – for his life, his reputation, or his virtue? Compare Proverbs 6:32-33.
2. “*I erred not...*” – “No dangers or persecutions tempt him to indifference or apostasy” (Henry).
3. God’s “*precepts*” provide His guidance & direction to avoid the snares & pitfalls.

III. Using the Word of God persistently (:111-112)

A. Continual rejoicing (:111) >

1. “*Heritage*” – “The godly Israelite has an eternal inheritance in the law which no enemy can deprive him” (Kirkpatrick).
2. “*Rejoicing*” – “That which rejoices the heart is sure to be chosen & treasured” (Spurgeon).

B. Continual resolve (:112) >

1. His resolve is to keep God’s statutes with all his heart.
  2. And his resolve is to keep God’s statutes throughout all time.
- Summary: “The psalmist would perform God’s statutes always, in all instances, in the duty of every day, in a constant course of holy walking, & this *to the end*, without weariness. This is following the Lord fully” (Henry).

Conclusion: We live in a darkened world, a society which has rejected the light of God’s Word. Consider the study released by the CDC on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. It reports: “Nearly 3 in 5 teenage girls felt persistent sadness in 2021, double the rate of boys, & 1 in 3 girls seriously considered attempting suicide.” Is this not a massive cry for help? The report also points out that “there is a surge in sadness, & in emotional trouble, & in a sense of persistent depression, & even of the threat of self-violence, that is found among LGBTQ youth” (Mohler, The Briefing, Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>). Mohler continues what we can conclude from this report: “Our worldview, based upon Scripture, tells us that those who are rebelling against creation order actually cannot be happy, cannot be satisfied, cannot know their true identity, & cannot be at personal peace so long as they are at war, not only with creation, but the Creator.” While our heart must go out with compassion for those struggling with their identity as male or female, it is our responsibility to make clear the Gospel of Christ & the clear teaching of God’s Word has the answer. For those who receive God’s Word, it brings comfort in distress & keeps us from wrong paths. The vow of the psalmist is like that of a subject to his king, swearing allegiance & loyalty to his sovereign. How much more should we “swear” our love & loyalty to the King of kings & Lord of lords? The psalmist references “*for ever*” (:111) & “*unto the end*” (:112). Plumer concludes, “The end of life will be the beginning of glory to all such a truly love & habitually practice God’s Word.” For those who are saved & trusting completely upon Him, might we demonstrate to this dark & dying society that the answers to life’s problems are found in the Word of God. Are you habitually practicing God’s Word?