

## Psalm 119

# An Acrostic <sup>1</sup> of God's Word

### A Heart-felt Cry to Yahweh for Blessing and Protection Based on His Word.

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#### A1 ALEPH. א OBEDIENCE -- THE KEY TO A BLESSED LIFE. 119:1-8.

##### B1 The Identification of Those Blessed 119:1-3

- C1 Those who lead a Biblical, undefiled lifestyle 119:1
- D1 How blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
D2 Who walk in the law of the LORD.
- C2 Those who whole-heartedly keep God's Word, abstaining from sin 119:2-3
- D1 {2} How blessed are those who observe His testimonies,  
D2 Who seek Him with all *their* heart.  
D3 {3} They also do no unrighteousness;  
D4 They walk in His ways.

##### B2 The Importance of Keeping God's Commands 119:4-8

- C1 We are commanded to keep them: {4} You have ordained Your precepts,  
That we should keep *them* diligently.
- C2 As modeled by the Psalmist 119:5-8
- D1 Praying that he might continually keep God's statutes: {5} Oh that  
my ways may be established To keep Your statutes!
- D2 Realizing that obedience will keep him from shame: {6} Then I  
shall not be ashamed When I look upon all Your commandments.
- D3 Realizing that obedience and integrity lead to praise: {7} I shall  
give thanks to You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your  
righteous judgments.
- D4 Pleading for security based on his obedience: {8} I shall keep Your  
statutes; Do not forsake me utterly!

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<sup>1</sup> Acrostic: In the Hebrew text each of the 22 sections of eight verses begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet, beginning with aleph and ending with tau.

**A2 BETH. ׀ THE PERSONAL DISCIPLINES OF A HOLY, GODLY LIFE. 119:9-16**

**B1 The Secret of a Clean Life 119:9-12**

- C1 Obedience: {9} How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Your word.
- C2 Whole-hearted seeking after God: {10} With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments.
- C3 Memorization: {11} Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.
- C4 Prayer: {12} Blessed are You, O LORD; Teach me Your statutes.

**B2 The Personal Disciplines of the Godly Life (or, Signs of a Vibrant Christian Life) 119:13-16**

- C1 Speaking about God's Word: {13} With my lips I have told of All the ordinances of Your mouth.
- C2 Enjoying God's Word: {14} I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches.
- C3 Meditating on God's Word: {15} I will meditate on Your precepts And regard Your ways.
- C4 Delighting in God's Word: {16} I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word.

**A3 GIMEL. ׀ THE PSALMIST'S PRAYERFUL LOYALTY TO GOD'S WORD. 119:17-24**

**B1 His Prayers Regarding God's Word 119:17-19**

- C1 For blessing enabling obedience: {17} Deal bountifully with Your servant, That I may live and keep Your word.
- C2 For illumination promoting understanding: {18} Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Your law.
- C3 For insight promoting guidance: {19} I am a stranger in the earth; Do not hide Your commandments from me.

**B2 His Loyalty to God's Word 119:20-24**

- C1 His desire for God's Word: {20} My soul is crushed with longing After Your ordinances at all times.
- C2 His acknowledgment of God's rebuke of those who desert His commands: {21} You rebuke the arrogant, the cursed, Who wander from Your commandments.

- C3 His plea for exemption from God's rebuke because of his obedience: {22} Take away reproach and contempt from me, For I observe Your testimonies.
- C4 His resolve to meditate on God's Word despite high-level criticism: {23} Even though princes sit *and* talk against me, Your servant meditates on Your statutes.<sup>2</sup>
- C5 His determination to rely on God's testimonies for counsel, rather than be swayed by the criticism of opposing princes: {24} Your testimonies also are my delight; *They are* my counselors.

**A4 DALETH. † THE PSALMISTS' REQUEST THAT GOD MIGHT HELP HIM LIVE BY HIS WORD. 119:25-32**

**B1 The Psalmist's Request to God for Emotional Strength According to His Word 119:25-28**

- C1 His request for sustenance through God's Word: {25} My soul cleaves to the dust; Revive me according to Your word.
- C2 His request to be taught God's statutes: {26} I have told of my ways, and You have answered me; Teach me Your statutes.
- C3 His request for God to illuminate His Word: {27} Make me understand the way of Your precepts, So I will meditate on Your wonders.
- C4 His request for strength from God's Word: {28} My soul weeps because of grief; Strengthen me according to Your word.

**B2 The Psalmist's Request to God for Extrication from Falsehood, Replaced Instead with His Law by Which to Live: {29} Remove the false way from me, And graciously grant me Your law. 119:29**

**B3 The Psalmist's Affirmation to God of Successful Living by His Word 119:30-32**

- C1 His declaration of having chosen to live by God's Word: {30} I have chosen the faithful way; I have placed Your ordinances *before me*.
- C2 His plea for God to vindicate his having chosen to live by God's Word: {31} I cling to Your testimonies; O LORD, do not put me to shame!
- C3 His declaration of faith that God will enable him to live by His Word: {32} I shall run the way of Your commandments, For You will enlarge my heart.

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<sup>2</sup> 119:23 - princes: Assuming David wrote the psalm, those in view might be Saul's court (if this were in David's younger years), or princes in his own court, such as Absalom or counselor Ahithophel, or princes in Gentile courts, such as they of the Philistine court (1 Sam 29:4; cf. Psalm 2:2). (John Gill's Expositor, Online Bible)

**A5 HE. ׀ THE PSALMIST'S PRAYER FOR COMPLIANCE WITH YAHWEH'S WORD. 119:33-40**

- B1 To Be Taught Yahweh's way:** {33} Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall observe it to the end.
- B2 For Understanding of His Law:** {34} Give me understanding, that I may observe Your law And keep it with all *my* heart.
- B3 To Walk in His Commandments:** {35} Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.
- B4 For a Heart Sensitive to His Testimonies:** {36} Incline my heart to Your testimonies And not to *dishonest* gain.
- B5 For Eyes Impervious to Vanity:** {37} Turn away my eyes from looking at vanity, And revive me in Your ways.
- B6 For a Word-Based Reverence:** {38} Establish Your word to Your servant, As that which produces reverence for You.
- B7 For Freedom from Reproach:** {39} Turn away my reproach which I dread, For Your ordinances are good.
- B8 For Over-All Revival:** {40} Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me through Your righteousness.

**A6 VAU. ׀ THE PSALMIST'S REQUEST FOR YAHWEH'S LOYAL LOVE PROMOTING DEFENSE AND TESTIMONY. 119:41-48**

- B1 His Request for Yahweh's Loyal Love as Evidence Against His Accusers 119:41-42**
- C1 His request for Yahweh's loyal love: {41} May Your lovingkindnesses also come to me, O LORD, Your salvation according to Your word;
- C2 The reason for the request -- to answer the accusations of his adversaries: {42} So I will have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.
- B2 His Request for Divine Blessing So He Will Have Whereof to Glorify Yahweh Verbally 119:43-44**
- C1 His request for blessing worthy of testimony: {43} And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, For I wait for Your ordinances.
- C2 His promise, thus enabled, to keep Yahweh's law always: {44} So I will keep Your law continually, Forever and ever.

**B3 His Resolve That His Life and His Lips Shall Be a Credit to Yahweh 119:45-46**

C1 His Intention to Walk in the Liberty of Yahweh's Precepts: {45} And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.

C2 His Intention to Speak Boldly of Yahweh's Law before Royalty: {46} I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings And shall not be ashamed.

**B4 His Love for Yahweh's Commands 119:47-48**

C1 Delighting in them: {47} I shall delight in Your commandments, Which I love.

C2 Lifting up his hands: {48} And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love;

C3 Meditating on His statutes: And I will meditate on Your statutes.

**A7 ZAIN. ך YAHWEH'S WORD AS HOPE, COMFORT, AND COMPANION. 119:49-56**

**B1 Word as Hope:** {49} Remember the word to Your servant, In which You have made me hope.

**B2 Word as Comfort:** {50} This is my comfort in my affliction, That Your word has revived me.

**B3 Word as Stability:** {51} The arrogant utterly deride me, *Yet* I do not turn aside from Your law.

**B4 Word as Comfort:** {52} I have remembered Your ordinances from of old, O LORD, And comfort myself.

**B5 Word as Indignation:** {53} Burning indignation has seized me because of the wicked, Who forsake Your law.

**B6 Word as Music:** {54} Your statutes are my songs In the house of my pilgrimage.

**B7 Word as Companion:** {55} O LORD, I remember Your name in the night, And keep Your law.

**B8 Word as Identity:** {56} This has become mine, That I observe Your precepts.

**A8 CHETH. ך THE PSALMIST'S COMMITMENT TO YAHWEH'S WORD. 119:57-64**

**B1 His Promise to Obey Yahweh's Words:** {57} The LORD is my portion; I have promised to keep Your words.

**B2 His Search for Yahweh's Favor Based on His Word:** {58} I sought Your favor with all *my* heart; Be gracious to me according to Your word.

**B3 His Studied Effort to Follow Yahweh's Testimonies 119:59-60**

- C1 His deliberate movement: {59} I considered my ways And turned my feet to Your testimonies.
- C2 His speedy effort: {60} I hastened and did not delay To keep Your commandments.

**B4 His Commitment to Yahweh's Law No Matter What His Circumstances 119:61-63**

- C1 Despite the restrictions of the wicked: {61} The cords of the wicked have encircled me, *But* I have not forgotten Your law.
- C2 Even at midnight: {62} At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You Because of Your righteous ordinances.
- C3 Allying himself with fearers of Yahweh: {63} I am a companion of all those who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts.

**B5 His Request to Learn of Yahweh's Loyal Love Embodied in His Statutes: {64}**  
The earth is full of Your lovingkindness, O LORD; Teach me Your statutes.

**A9 TETH. ט THE GOODNESS OF GOD, HIS WAY AND HIS WORD. 119:65-72**

**B1 The Goodness of Yahweh Reflected in His Way and His Word 119:65-68**

- C1 Yahweh's goodness to the psalmist based on His word: {65} You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word.
- C2 The psalmist's request for good discernment from His commands: {66} Teach me good discernment and knowledge, For I believe in Your commandments.
- C3 The psalmist's having learned by experience the value of keeping Yahweh's word: {67} Before I was afflicted I went astray, *But* now I keep Your word.
- C4 The psalmist's request to be taught Yahweh's statutes because of Yahweh's good character and good deeds: {68} You are good and do good; Teach me Your statutes.

**B2 The Psalmist's Contrast of Himself with the Arrogant 119:69-70**

- C1 His commitment to observe Yahweh's precepts despite deceptive opposition: {69} The arrogant have forged a lie against me; With all *my* heart I will observe Your precepts.
- C2 His delight in Yahweh's law in contrast with the indifference of the arrogant: {70} Their heart is covered with fat, *But* I delight in Your law.

**B3 The Psalmist's Statement of the Value of Yahweh's Word 119:71-72**

C1 It is worth enduring affliction to better learn His statutes: {71} It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.

C2 His law is more valuable than great wealth: {72} The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver *pieces*.

**A10 JOD. ׀ A PRAYER FOR YAHWEH'S COMPASSIONATE LOYAL LOVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS WORD. 119:73-80**

**B1 Request for Understanding from the Creator:** {73} Your hands made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

**B2 Prayer for the Encouragement of Those Who Fear Yahweh:** {74} May those who fear You see me and be glad, Because I wait for Your word.

**B3 Acknowledgment of Yahweh's Righteous, Faithful Discipline:** {75} I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are righteous, And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.

**B4 Prayer for Yahweh's Loyal Love:** {76} O may Your lovingkindness comfort me, According to Your word to Your servant.

**B5 Prayer for Yahweh's Compassion:** {77} May Your compassion come to me that I may live, For Your law is my delight.

**B6 Prayer for Vindication before the Arrogant:** {78} May the arrogant be ashamed, for they subvert me with a lie; *But* I shall meditate on Your precepts.

**B7 Prayer for Loyalty from those Who Fear Yahweh:** {79} May those who fear You turn to me, Even those who know Your testimonies.

**B8 Prayer for a Blameless Heart:** {80} May my heart be blameless in Your statutes, So that I will not be ashamed.

**A11 CAPH. ׀ THE PSALMIST'S LONGING FOR WORD OF GOD'S SALVATION FROM HIS ADVERSARIES. 119:81-88**

**B1 The Psalmist's Longing for Word of God's Salvation 119:81-84**

C1 The yearning of his soul: {81} My soul languishes for Your salvation; I wait for Your word.

C2 The weeping of his eyes: {82} My eyes fail *with longing* for Your word, While I say, "When will You comfort me?"

C3 His commitment to God's word despite personal dryness: {83} Though I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, I do not forget Your statutes.

C4 His bemoaning God's delay in justice toward his persecutors: {84} How many are the days of Your servant? When will You execute judgment on those who persecute me?

**B2 The Psalmist's Plaintive Description of His Adversaries 119:85-87**

- C1 Arrogant, and out of step with God's law: {85} The arrogant have dug pits for me, *Men* who are not in accord with Your law.
- C2 Fraudulents persecutors, contrasted with God's faithful commands: {86} All Your commandments are faithful; They have persecuted me with a lie; help me!
- C3 Almost successful in destroying him, yet he kept God's precepts: {87} They almost destroyed me on earth, But as for me, I did not forsake Your precepts.

**B3 The Psalmist's Plea for Revival, Enabling His Observance of God's Testimony: {88} Revive me according to Your lovingkindness, So that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth. 119:88**

**A12 LAMED. 7 THE ETERNAL PERFECTION OF YAHWEH'S WORD, WHICH SUSTAINS THE PSALMIST AMIDST PERSECUTION. 119:89-96**

**B1 The Eternity of Yahweh's Word 119:89-91**

- C1 The eternal celestial establishment of Yahweh's Word: {89} Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.
- C2 Yahweh's stability toward man as demonstrated by the continuity of creation
- D1 Of Planet Earth: {90} Your faithfulness *continues* throughout all generations; You established the earth, and it stands.
- D2 Of the entire created order: {91} They stand this day according to Your ordinances, For all things are Your servants.

**B2 The Psalmist's Commitment to Yahweh's Word, Which Has Sustained Him During Attacks from the Wicked 119:92-95**

- C1 Yahweh's word his sustenance during affliction: {92} If Your law had not been my delight, Then I would have perished in my affliction.
- C2 His undying commitment to Yahweh's reviving precepts: {93} I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have revived me.
- C3 His plea to Yahweh for salvation in view of his commitment to Yahweh and His precepts: {94} I am Yours, save me; For I have sought Your precepts.
- C4 Opposition from the wicked only reinforces his commitment to Yahweh's testimonies: {95} The wicked wait for me to destroy me; I shall diligently consider Your testimonies.

**B3 The Psalmist's Extolling of Yahweh's Commandment as Infinite Perfection: {96} I have seen a limit to all perfection; Your commandment is exceedingly broad. 119:96**



**A13 MEM. מ THE BENEFITS TO THE PSALMIST OF COMMITMENT TO GOD'S WORD: WISDOM AND MORALITY. 119:97-104**

**B1 Wisdom Derived from His Commitment to God's Word 119:97-100**

- C1 His whole-hearted commitment to God's law: {97} O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.
- C2 Making him wiser than his enemies: {98} Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, For they are ever mine.
- C3 Giving him more insight than his teachers: {99} I have more insight than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation.
- C4 Giving him greater understanding than the aged: {100} I understand more than the aged, Because I have observed Your precepts.

**B2 Commitment to God's Word Has Kept Him from Evil 119:101-104**

- C1 Restraining his feet from evil: {101} I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word.
- C2 Not turning aside from God's ordinances: {102} I have not turned aside from Your ordinances, For You Yourself have taught me.
- C3 Bolstered by his enjoyment of God's words: {103} How sweet are Your words to my taste! *Yes, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!
- C4 Helping him understand and hate every fraudulent alternative lifestyle: {104} From Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.

**A14 NUN. נ THE PSALMIST'S ETERNAL COMMITMENT TO YAHWEH AND HIS WORD FOR DIRECTION DESPITE OPPOSITION. 119:105-112**

**B1 His Commitment to Keep Yahweh's Word Because It Provides Direction for His Life 119:105-106**

- C1 Life direction from Yahweh's word: {105} Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.
- C2 His oath to keep Yahweh's ordinances: {106} I have sworn and I will confirm it, That I will keep Your righteous ordinances.

**B2 His Resolve to Pray and Praise Despite Trials 119:107-108**

- C1 His plea, in view of his afflictions, for Yahweh to revive him: {107} I am exceedingly afflicted; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.
- C2 His request that Yahweh might accept his praise and continue to teach him: {108} O accept the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, And teach me Your ordinances.

**B3 His Commitment to Yahweh's Word Despite Opposition from the Wicked 119:109-110**

- C1 His remembering of Yahweh's law despite life-threatening opposition: {109} My life is continually in my hand, Yet I do not forget Your law.
- C2 His loyalty to Yahweh's precepts despite the traps of the wicked: {110} The wicked have laid a snare for me, Yet I have not gone astray from Your precepts.

**B4 His Eternal Commitment to Yahweh's Word 119:111-112**

- C1 His joyful inheritance of Yahweh's testimonies: {111} I have inherited Your testimonies forever, For they are the joy of my heart.
- C2 His resolve to follow Yahweh's statutes forever: {112} I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes Forever, *even* to the end.

**A15 SAMECH. D THE PSALMIST'S LOATHING OF THE WICKED CONTRASTED WITH HIS LOVE FOR AND FEAR OF GOD AND HIS WORD. 119:113-120****B1 His Hatred of and Separation from the Morally Ambivalent Contrasted with His Love for and Reliance upon God and His Word 119:113-115**

- C1 His hatred contrasted with his love: {113} I hate those who are double-minded, But I love Your law.
- C2 His reliance upon God and His word: {114} You are my hiding place and my shield; I wait for Your word.
- C3 His command for evil-doers to depart: {115} Depart from me, evildoers, That I may observe the commandments of my God.

**B2 His Request for Sustenance and Upholding 119:116-117**

- C1 For sustenance, that he might live without shame: {116} Sustain me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.
- C2 For upholding, that he might observe God's statutes in safety: {117} Uphold me that I may be safe, That I may have regard for Your statutes continually.

**B3 His Renewed Diatribe Against the Wicked 119:118-119**

- C1 God's rejection of the deceitfully disobedient: {118} You have rejected all those who wander from Your statutes, For their deceitfulness is useless.
- C2 God's removal of the wicked from the earth: {119} You have removed all the wicked of the earth *like* dross; Therefore I love Your testimonies.

**B4 His Profound Fear of God and His Judgments: {120} My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your judgments. 119:120**

**A16 AIN. Y THE PSALMIST'S PRAYER FOR YAHWEH'S LOYAL, LOVING DELIVERANCE FROM LAW-BREAKING OPPRESSORS. 119:121-128**

**B1 His Prayer for Deliverance from Arrogant Oppressors 119:121-122**

- C1 His request for "hands-on" protection from oppressors because of his commitment to righteousness and justice: *{121}* I have done justice and righteousness; Do not leave me to my oppressors.
- C2 His request that Yahweh's presence with him might serve as an inviolable deposit protecting His servant from his arrogant oppressors: *{122}* Be surety for Your servant for good; Do not let the arrogant oppress me.

**B2 His Request for Yahweh's Salvation Based on His Loyal Love Embodied in His Word 119:123-125**

- C1 His weeping (while waiting) for Yahweh's salvation and righteous word: *{123}* My eyes fail *with longing* for Your salvation And for Your righteous word.
- C2 His plea for Yahweh's loyal love: *{124}* Deal with Your servant according to Your lovingkindness And teach me Your statutes.
- C3 His humble request for understanding to know Yahweh's testimonies: *{125}* I am Your servant; give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.

**B3 His Request for Yahweh's Speedy Action against Breakers of Yahweh's Law, Which He Values Highly 119:126-128**

- C1 His request that Yahweh judge those who have broken His law: *{126}* It is time for the LORD to act, *For* they have broken Your law.
- C2 His great love of Yahweh's commands: *{127}* Therefore I love Your commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold.
- C3 His assessment of great value to Yahweh's precepts contrasted with his hatred of every false way: *{128}* Therefore I esteem right all *Your* precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way.

**A17 PE. D THE PSALMIST'S GRAPHIC APPRECIATION OF GOD'S WORD ISSUING IN REQUESTS TO GOD. 119:129-136**

**B1 His Graphic Description of God's Word 119:129-131**

- C1 They are astounding, promoting observance: *{129}* Your testimonies are wonderful; Therefore my soul observes them.
- C2 They give discernment to the naive: *{130}* The unfolding of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.
- C3 They arouse a great craving! *{131}* I opened my mouth wide and panted, For I longed for Your commandments.

**B2 His Requests to God Based on His Name and Word 119:132-135**

- C1 To treat him graciously since he loves His name: {132} Turn to me and be gracious to me, After Your manner with those who love Your name.<sup>3</sup>
- C2 To order the course of his life Biblically, so he will not yield to sin: {133} Establish my footsteps in Your word, And do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.
- C3 To redeem him from man's oppression so he may obey: {134} Redeem me from the oppression of man, That I may keep Your precepts.
- C4 To bestow favor upon him, teaching him His statutes: {135} Make Your face shine<sup>4</sup> upon Your servant, And teach me Your statutes.

**B3 His Great Grief That Others Do Not Keep God's Law: {136} My eyes shed streams of water, Because they do not keep Your law. 119:136**

**A18 TZADDI. ז THE CHARACTERS OF YAHWEH AND THE PSALMIST IN RELATION TO YAHWEH'S WORD. 119:137-144**

**B1 The Character of Yahweh in Relation to His Word 119:137-138**

- C1 Righteous and upright: {137} Righteous are You, O LORD, And upright are Your judgments.
- C2 Righteous and faithful: {138} You have commanded Your testimonies in righteousness And exceeding faithfulness.

**B2 The Character of the Psalmist in Relation to Yahweh's Word 119:139-141**

- C1 Zealous, because his enemies have forgotten Yahweh's words: {139} My zeal has consumed me, Because my adversaries have forgotten Your words.
- C2 Loving Yahweh's word because of its purity: {140} Your word is very pure, Therefore Your servant loves it.
- C3 Remembering Yahweh's precepts despite his being devalued and despised by his enemies: {141} I am small and despised, Yet I do not forget Your precepts.

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3 Ps. 119:132 -- One verse that contains no reference to God's Word (!).

<sup>4</sup> 119:35 - face shine upon: bestow favor -- see Allen P. Ross, *TBKC*, note on Psalm 4:6 (cf. Ps. 44:3; 67:1; 80:3, 7, 19).

**B3 The Character of Yahweh in Relation to His Word 119:142**

C1 Eternally righteous: *{142}* Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness,

C2 Unqualified truth: And Your law is truth.

**B4 The Character of the Psalmist in Relation to Yahweh's Word 119:143-144**

C1 Delighting in His commands, though in anguish: *{143}* Trouble and anguish have come upon me, *Yet* Your commandments are my delight.

C2 Requesting of Yahweh understanding to live because of the eternal rightness of His testimonies: *{144}* Your testimonies are righteous forever; Give me understanding that I may live.

**A19 KOPH. פ THE PSALMIST'S DESCRIPTION OF HIS COMMUNICATIONS WITH YAHWEH IN RELATION TO HIS WORD. 119:145-152****B1 His Cries of Anguish 119:145-147**

C1 His heart-felt cry, promising to obey: *{145}* I cried with all my heart; answer me, O LORD! I will observe Your statutes.

C2 His cry for salvation, promising to observe: *{146}* I cried to You; save me And I shall keep Your testimonies.

C3 His pre-dawn cry for help, longing for His words: *{147}* I rise before dawn and cry for help; I wait for Your words.

**B2 His Expression of Eagerness -- His anticipation of nighttime, enabling meditation on His word! *{148}* My eyes anticipate the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word. 119:148****B3 His Present Request of Yahweh 119:149**

C1 For hearing, based on His loyal love: *{149}* Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness;

C2 For revival, based on His ordinances: Revive me, O LORD, according to Your ordinances.

**B4 His Concern about the Wicked in Relation to Yahweh's Law 119:150**

C1 His apprehension over the approach of the wicked: *{150}* Those who follow after wickedness draw near;

C2 His realization of their distance from His law: They are far from Your law.

**B5 His Appreciation of Yahweh's Nearness in Truth 119:151**

C1 His nearness: *{151}* You are near, O LORD,

C2 His truthfulness without exception: And all Your commandments are truth.

**B6 His Amazement at the Eternity of Yahweh's Testimonies: {152} Of old I have known from Your testimonies That You have founded them forever. 119:152****A20 RESH. 7 THE PSALMIST'S REQUEST, IN LIGHT OF OPPOSITION, FOR YAHWEH TO INFUSE LIFE WITHIN HIM ACCORDING TO HIS EXPRESSIONS OF JUSTICE AND LOYAL LOVE. 119:153-160****B1 His Plea for Deliverance and Redemption Because of His Regard for Yahweh's Word 119:153-154**

C1 For Yahweh to notice and rescue: *{153}* Look upon my affliction and rescue me, For I do not forget Your law.

C2 For Yahweh to provide legal representation and redemption: *{154}* Plead my cause and redeem me;

C3 For Yahweh to infuse life within him: Revive me according to Your word.

**B2 His Contrast of the Expectations of the Wicked Because of Their Ignoring Yahweh's Word Compared to Himself 119:155-156**

C1 The wicked can expect no salvation: *{155}* Salvation is far from the wicked, For they do not seek Your statutes.

C2 His acknowledgment of Yahweh's great compassion: *{156}* Great are Your mercies, O LORD;

C3 His request for Yahweh to infuse life within him: Revive me according to Your ordinances.

**B3 His Reaction to His Adversaries in Relation to Yahweh's Word 119:157-158**

C1 His refusal to swerve from Yahweh's testimonies despite opposition: *{157}* Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, *Yet* I do not turn aside from Your testimonies.

C2 His disgust with treacherous because they keep not Yahweh's word: *{158}* I behold the treacherous and loathe *them*, Because they do not keep Your word.

**B4 His Love for and Awe toward Yahweh's Eternal Word 119:159-160**

- C1 His request for Yahweh to behold his love for Yahweh's precepts: *{159}* Consider how I love Your precepts;
- C2 His request for Yahweh's infusion of life according to His loyal love: Revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness.
- C3 Yahweh's word is truth from the beginning: *{160}* The sum of Your word is truth,
- C4 Yahweh's righteous expressions of justice are eternal: And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting. 119:160

**A21 SCHIN. שׁ THE PSALMIST'S ATTITUDE TOWARD YAHWEH'S WORD. 119:161-168**

- B1 Fearing, Even if Distracted by Persecution:** *{161}* Princes persecute me without cause, But my heart stands in awe of Your words.<sup>5</sup>
- B2 Rejoicing:** *{162}* I rejoice at Your word, As one who finds great spoil.
- B3 Loving While Abhorring Falsehood:** *{163}* I hate and despise falsehood, *But* I love Your law.
- B4 Stirring Praise of Yahweh:** *{164}* Seven times a day I praise You, Because of Your righteous ordinances.
- B5 Loving, Resulting in Peace and Stability:** *{165}* Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.
- B6 Hoping for Yahweh's Salvation:** *{166}* I hope for Your salvation, O LORD, And do Your commandments.
- B7 Loving, Linked with Obedience:** *{167}* My soul keeps Your testimonies, And I love them exceedingly.
- B8 Obeying, Prompted by Transparency:** *{168}* I keep Your precepts and Your testimonies, For all my ways are before You.

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<sup>5</sup> 119:161 - stands in awe: The sense seems to be that, though princes persecute him, and his attention ought naturally to have been occupied with instinctive fear of them, the psalmist's dread is rather of God's words. This is not a loathing fear, but rather the awesome kind of fear one experiences as he witnesses a powerful storm destroying homes and trees in its path.

**A22 TAU. ׀ THE PSALMIST'S FINAL PRAYER TO YAHWEH BASED ON HIS WORD. 119:169-176**

**B1 To Hear His Pleas for Help Based on Yahweh's Word 119:169-170**

C1 To hear his cry, granting understanding: *{169}* Let my cry come before You, O LORD; Give me understanding according to Your word.

C2 To Answer His Prayer for Deliverance: *{170}* Let my supplication come before You; Deliver me according to Your word.

**B2 To Accept His Praise Because of Yahweh's Word 119:171-172**

C1 To accept his praise for statute-education: *{171}* Let my lips utter praise, For You teach me Your statutes.

C2 To accept his songs about righteous commands: *{172}* Let my tongue sing of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness.

**B3 To Save Him Because of His Positive Attitude toward Yahweh's Words 119:173-174**

C1 Requesting help: *{173}* Let Your hand be ready to help me,

C2 Because of his choice: For I have chosen Your precepts.

C3 Longing for Yahweh's salvation: *{174}* I long for Your salvation, O LORD,

C4 Delighting in His law: And Your law is my delight.

**B4 To Permit Him to Live and Praise 119:175**

C1 Enablement to praise: *{175}* Let my soul live that it may praise You,

C2 Help from His ordinances: And let Your ordinances help me.

**B5 Closing Confession, Request and Commitment 119:176**

C1 Confession of straying: *{176}* I have gone astray like a lost sheep;

C2 Request for seeking: seek Your servant,

C3 His commitment: For I do not forget Your commandments.



Expanded Analysis of Psalm 119

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