

PSALM 119 65-80 – Meditations on the Excellencies of the Word of God!

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GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS! *Chisholm; Runyan – Fetke (2:40)*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been Thou forever will be.*

Refrain:

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain*

PSALM 119: Vs. 65-72: In this ninth section the verses all begin with the letter **Teth**. They are the witness of experience, testifying to the goodness of God, the graciousness of His dealings, and the preciousness of His word. Especially the Psalmist proclaims the excellent uses of adversity, and the goodness of God in afflicting him. **Psa 119:65** is the text of the entire octave.

Vs. 73-80: We have now come to the tenth portion, which in each stanza begins with **Jod**, but it certainly does not treat of jots and titles and other trifles. Its subject would seem to be personal experience and its attractive influence upon others. The prophet is in deep sorrow, but looks to be delivered and made a blessing. Endeavoring to teach, the Psalmist first seeks to be taught (Psa 119:73), persuades himself that he will be well received (Psa 119:74), and rehearses the testimony which he intends to bear (Psa 119:75). He prays for more experience (Psa 119:76, 19 119:77), for the baffling of the proud (Psa 119:78), for the gathering together of the godly to him (Psa 119:79), and for himself again that he may be fully equipped for his witness-bearing and may be sustained in it (Psa 119:80). This is the anxious yet hopeful cry of one who is heavily afflicted by cruel adversaries, and therefore makes his appeal to God as his only friend.

TETH

Psa 119:65 You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word.

- This is the summary of his life, and assuredly it is the sum of ours. The Psalmist tells the Lord the verdict of his heart. He cannot be silent, he must speak his gratitude in the presence of Jehovah, his God. From the universal goodness of God in nature – **The earth, O LORD is full of Your mercy;** - it is an easy and pleasant step to a confession of the Lord's uniform goodness to ourselves personally.

Psa 119:66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge, For I believe Your commandments.

- Oh yes, Lord, please teach me good judgment and knowledge. So many times, our judgment is not wise. How important that we seek the Lord to give us discernment and to teach us good judgment.

Psa 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.

- Afflictions are something that God puts on His children or His people for corrective purposes. God uses discomfiting experiences in life to, often times, correct our course. We sometimes stray from the path of the Lord, sometimes we get involved in other things and we are not spending the time with the Lord that we should be spending. The purpose of affliction was to bring me back on the right path.

Psa 119:68 You are good, and do good;

- Even in affliction God is good, and does good. This is the confession of experience. God is essential goodness in Himself, and in every attribute of His nature. He is good in the fullest sense of the term; indeed, He has a monopoly of goodness, for there is none good but One, that is God. His acts are according to His nature: from a pure source flow pure streams.

Teach me Your statutes.

- The same prayer as before, backed with the same argument. He prays, “Lord be good, and do good to me that I may both be good and do good through Your teaching.” The man of God was a learner, and delighted to learn: he ascribed this to the goodness of the Lord, and hoped that for the same reason he would be allowed to remain

in the school and continue to learn until he could perfectly practice every lesson.

Psa 119:69 The proud have forged a lie against me,

- To injure his character they resorted to falsehood, for they could find nothing against him if they spoke the truth. They forged a lie as a blacksmith beats out a weapon of iron, or they counterfeited the truth as men forge counterfeit coin. Many a happy life has been embittered by it, and many a good reputation has been poisoned as with the deadliest drug. The only help against it is the sweet promise, “No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that riseth against you in judgment You shalt condemn.”

But I will keep Your precepts with my whole heart.

- My one concern shall be to mind my own business and stick to the commandments of the Lord. If the mud which is thrown at us does not blind our eyes or bruise our integrity it will do us little harm. If we keep the precepts, the precepts will keep us in the day of contumely and slander.

Psa 119:70 Their heart is as fat as grease, But I delight in Your law.

- “*Their heart is as fat as grease.*” In this condition men have no heart except for luxury, their very being seems to swim and stew in the fat of cookery and banqueting. Living on the fat of the land, their nature is subdued to that which they have fed upon; the muscle of their nature has gone to softness and grease.
- “*But I delight in Your law.*” How much better is it to joy in the law of the Lord than to joy in sensual indulgences. This makes the heart healthy, and keeps the mind lowly. No one who loves holiness has the slightest cause to envy the prosperity of the worldling.

Psa 119:71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted,

- Though the affliction came from bad men, it was overruled for good ends; though it was bad as it came from them it was good for David. It benefited him in many ways, and he knew it. Whatever he may have thought while under the trial, he perceived himself to be the better for it when it was over. It was not good to the proud to be prosperous, for their hearts grew sensual and insensible; but affliction was good for the Psalmist.

That I may learn Your statutes.

- God teaching me His statutes through these experiences of life that were difficult and hard. These we have come to know and to keep by feeling the smart of the rod. We prayed the Lord to teach us, and now we see how He has already been doing it. Truly He has dealt well with us, for He has dealt wisely with us. Very little is to be learned without affliction. If we would be scholars we must be sufferers. There is no royal road to learning the royal statutes; God's commands are best read by eyes wet with tears.

Psa 119:72 The law of Your mouth is better (worth more) to me Than thousands of coins of gold and silver.

- The value, the esteem that the psalmist put on the word of God. It is more valuable to me than the riches of the world. The temporal verses the eternal. The treasures of this world are temporal, but the word of God is forever established, it is eternal. So, putting the value upon the eternal things I find the greater value in the word of God. My heart values it more than the riches of the world. Jesus said, “What should it profit a man if he would gain the whole world but lose his own soul?” The value of the word of God and the value that was put on the word of God.

“JOD” or “YOD”

Psa 119:73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me;

- He fashioned me. The psalmist realizing that continues. That is a total contradiction to the evolutionary theory. The psalmist recognizes that he is a creation of God. As a creation of God, an intelligent God, in the creating of man He had a plan and a purpose for that creation. Therefore, there is a purpose for my existence. I am important to the eyes of God. There is a reason for my being here, a divine eternal purpose in my existence.

Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

- Knowing that You created me, knowing that You fashioned me, Your hands have made and fashioned me, now Lord I desire understanding. I want to learn about You that our fellowship might be enhanced.

Psa 119:74 Those who fear You will be glad when they see me, Because I have hoped in Your word.

- Those that love the Lord, when they see what God has done because I put my hope in the word of God and they see that work of God it will cause their hearts to rejoice when they see God's work in my life because of my hope that I put in the word of God.

Psa 119:75 I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right,

- This is an issue that Satan constantly is challenging whether or not the judgments of God are right. Is it fair that God would allow this? Is it fair that God would do that? The judgments of God are constantly being challenged by Satan. I know God's judgments are right, I may not understand them. I cannot say that about the judgments that I read from the court system today, I cannot say "I know that the judge is right". I think that sometimes the judges have taken leave of their senses.

And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.

- If God has allowed something to happen in my life there is a purpose of God that is right behind it. Even in the afflictions there is a faithfulness to God, and He is faithful to His righteousness in allowing these things to happen. So, when Satan challenges the justice of God or the fairness of God in the circumstances of my life because things are not going my way, things are tough, things are hurtful or paining me I am being afflicted, I know that God's judgments are right. He is faithful even in the afflictions that come across my path.

Psa 119:76 Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort, According to Your word to Your servant.

- The words "merciful kindness," are a happy combination, and express exactly what we need in affliction: mercy to forgive the sin. and kindness to sustain under the sorrow. With these we can be comfortable in the cloudy and dark day, and without them we are wretched indeed; for these, therefore, let us pray unto the Lord, whom we have grieved by our sin, and let us plead the word of his grace as our sole reason for expecting his favor. Now let Your merciful kindness be for my comfort and let Your tender mercies come to me.

Psa 119:77 Let Your tender mercies come to me, that I may live;

- Was there ever a sweeter sound than this - "tender mercies"? He who has been grievously afflicted, and yet tenderly helped is the only man who knows the meaning of such choice language. How truly we live when His tender mercy comes to us. Then we do not merely exist, but live; we are lively, full of life, vivacious, and vigorous. We know not what life is till we know God. Some are said to die by the visitation of God, but we live by it.

For Your law is my delight.

- To delight in the word when it rebukes us, is proof that we are profiting under it. Surely this is a plea which will prevail with God, however bitter our griefs may be; if we still delight in the law of the Lord, He cannot let us die. He must and will cast a tender look upon us and comfort our hearts.

Psa 119:78 Let the proud be ashamed, For they treated me wrongfully with falsehood;

- The proud have forged lies against him, sought to destroy him. Let them be ashamed for their perverse dealings with me for there is no reason for it.

But I will meditate on Your precepts.

- He would leave the proud in God's hands, and give himself up to holy studies and contemplations. To obey the divine precepts we have need to know them, and think much of them, hence this persecuted saint felt that meditation must be his chief employment.

Psa 119:79 Let those who fear You turn to me, Those who know Your testimonies.

- Turn away the proud but draw to me those or surround me with those who love You and who fear Your name, begs God, to turn to Him, and then to turn His people towards Him. Those who are right with God are also anxious to be right with His children.

Psa 119:80 Let my heart be blameless regarding Your statutes, That I may not be ashamed.

- The prayers of David, the "Let I pray Your merciful kindness be for my comfort. Let Your tender mercies. Let the proud be ashamed. Let those that fear You turn to me. Let my heart be blameless regarding Your statutes".

SUMMARY:

- May the Lord strengthen you with His word that you might walk in the light of His countenance and in the understanding of His ways as you keep His law and His precepts.

- May the word of God be the strength of your life, your power against sin, as you walk according to His purpose, and you fulfill His plan for your life this week.
- May you know the joy of doing the will and the work of God so that you have His approval and acclaim, His “Well done good and faithful servant”. May we be busy this week fulfilling the purpose for which God made and fashioned us as we keep His commandments.

ABOVE ALL – Michael W. Smith (4:24)

Above all powers, above all kings. Above all nature and all created things
 Above all wisdom and all the ways of man You were here before the world began
 Above all kingdoms, above all thrones Above all wonders the world has ever known
 Above all wealth and treasures of the earth There's no way to measure what You're worth
 Crucified, laid behind a stone You lived to die, rejected and alone
 Like a rose, trampled on the ground You took the fall and thought of me Above all (2X)

Crucified, laid behind a stone You lived to die, rejected and alone
 Like a rose, trampled on the ground You took the fall and thought of me Above all
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**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE
 OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL:**

**PRAY FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD
 LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation!**