

## For Our Information

Gracie Simpson has a torn ACL and bruised MCL. She has been working on straightening her leg this week. She will need surgery also.

Joyce Venable went to the hospital with chest pains Wednesday, but was sent home after they found no problem.

Dan & JoBeth Henderson will be out of town next weekend. Others may also be travelling.

Remember one another as we pray to the Father each day

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

psalm declares them to be Law. Man says the Bible is full of fables. This psalm announces that the scriptures are reliable Testimony. Man says, "What is truth?" Psalm 119 declares that God's word is Truth. These repeated declarations remind us that the only way we get right with God is to have a fundamental respect and reverence for the word of God.

But the psalm also shows us what we must do with God's word. For it is not enough to have respect toward God's word -- we must do something with that respect. This psalm begins in verses 1-4 with a call for obedience to God's word. Verse 11 then explains the value of memorizing God's word. Verse 15 appeals to us to meditate on God's word. Verses 26,27 reveal the value of learning God's word. Verse 97 reminds us that we must love God's word. Verse 42 makes it clear that we must love God's word. Finally, verse 72 shows us that we must treasure God's word.

(This article is continued in next week's bulletin. DLH)

# Seeking His Righteousness

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## A Tribute To God's Word

### Psalm 119

David Watts Jr.

The psalmist honors the word of God in verse after verse of a reverent tribute to its greatness and importance.

Anytime someone attempts to write an article about truth that is revealed in God's word -- it is a challenging task. Will I teach the scripture accurately? Will I rightly divide the word of God? Will I carefully and accurately "give the sense" (Neh. 8:8) and so help others understand the word of the Lord?

The challenges of writing about this beautiful psalm are certainly no less substantial. It is of course, the



*I shall  
delight in  
Your  
statutes; I  
shall not  
forget Your  
word.*

**Psalm  
119:16**



## Meet With Us

### Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

### Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

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longest psalm and chapter in the entire Bible. By mere counting of verses, it is longer than the entire book of Galatians or Ephesians. So, the task before us is substantial if only because of its length.

But more important, the task is substantial because Psalm 119 is a most beautiful portrait of the glory of God's word. Surely for all of us, it is our attitude toward the word of God that is so very fundamental to whether we become pleasing to God. Thus, we shall seek to understand this psalm accurately so that we will better understand what our view of God's word should be.

The richness of Psalm 119 can be quickly refreshed in our minds. We can simply consider a few verses that we should know quite well. Verse 105 reminds us that God's word is a "lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Perhaps we spend too much of our time inside our lighted homes. But just a few moments in the dark woods without a light makes me appreciate a "lamp to my feet." Lost and stumbling in the dark, the only true light that can show us the true way is that which shines from the word of God.

We might also remember verse 11. The psalmist proclaims, "Thy word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." What a profound summary of the benefits of knowing God's word. This verse tells us the right place for God's word (our hearts) and the benefit of storing it there (that we might not sin). It is for such rich and yet simple statements, that this psalm is so loved for its treatment of the word of God.

Another verse that may not be as well known to us is verse 72. The psalmist says "Thy law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of coins of gold and silver." Long centuries have passed since the Holy

## Store In My Heart

### Hebrews 13:5-6

Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," so that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?"

Strength to endure is ours when we put our trust in God. No matter our station in life we can know that our Father is with us and will provide. There is no need for the Christian to seek after the fleeting wealth of this world for our Father owns all and our focus and trust in Him and his Way will bring us through this world. Our wealth is in God and our reward will be ready for us when this life is over.

Spirit instructed the psalmist to write these words but they are just as needed, just as pertinent and just as valuable to our materialistic world as when first penned. As Christians awash in a sea of covetousness and materialism, we will do well to always esteem God's word higher than gold and silver.

This psalm is structured in a somewhat unusual manner. Most Bible translations show that there are 22 sections in this psalm. Each section is 8 verses. Each section is named for a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. For example, the first section is named for the letter Aleph, the next section is named for the letter Beth. What is not as obvious to us is that in the original Hebrew, each line of a particular section starts with the corresponding letter. For example, in Hebrew each line of the section Beth from verses 9 through 16 starts with a word that begins with the Hebrew letter Beth. Thus, the psalm is rightly called an acrostic psalm. This would have been of great value as a memory aid to the original readers as they sought to "hide God's word" within their hearts.

The psalm is also unique in the variety of words used to describe the word of God. There are at least 10 major terms used for God's word. In my NKJV the terms used for God's word are: Way, Law, Testimonies, Precepts, Statutes, Commandments, Judgments, Word, Truth, and Righteousness. What is also impressive is the frequency in which these words are used. In every verse, with perhaps two or three exceptions, you will find one of these terms being used to describe God's word.

What a valuable lesson for us today. While man may say that God's word is a book of suggestions, this psalm proclaims it to be the Way. Man says the scriptures are just customs for a different people. This