

## For Our Information

Gracie Simpson will need surgery to repair her injured knee. Her ACL is torn and her MCL is severely bruised.

Dan & JoBeth Henderson are visiting family for the holidays. They should return Monday or Tuesday after Christmas. Others may be travelling for this holiday also.

Have you finished this year's reading program? Do you have another ready to go?

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!

two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). God's word is powerful and it divides and reveals.

Many years before Christ, the psalmist argues that God's words should be the standard for our life. Accordingly, Jesus shows us in Jno. 12:48 that His words will also be the standard on that final day of judgment.

We must examine ourselves. Can we express the thoughts of this psalm? Can we say, "Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever" (vs 111)? Can we write, "My eyes fail from searching Your word" (vs. 82)? Do we believe God's laws are better than "thousands of coins of gold and silver" (vs. 72)?

Let us consider anew the glory of God's word. Let us prepare our hearts and minds for real study and examination of God's word. Let us cling to it as to life itself, as it is indeed the only way, the only truth, the only light for our souls.

# Seeking His Righteousness

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## A Tribute To God's Word

### Psalm 119

David Watts Jr.

(Continued from last week.)

In a day and age where most around us are calloused toward God's word, let us make sure that we understand what we must do with it. We must learn it, live it, practice it, treasure it, trust it and finally tell others about its glories. Isn't that what the psalmist has done and is doing?

Digging further into this psalm reveals more treasures for our gleaning. Many of the 22 sections of this psalm carry a similar four-part theme. The theme is as follows: (1) Praise, (2) Trouble, (3) Deliverance,



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

**Psalm  
119:16**



1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

## 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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and (4) More Praise. For example, see the section of scripture that begins in verse 113.

Verses 113,114 express praise for God: "You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word." Verse 115 acknowledges trouble in the form of evil doers in his presence: "Depart from me you evildoers." Verses 116-119 describe the deliverance from God that the psalmist experiences: "Hold me up, and I shall be safe." Finally, verses 119,120 express more praise for God: "Therefore, I love Your testimonies. My flesh trembles for fear of You."

To some extent these themes of Praise, Trouble, Deliverance and More Praise thread their way through most of these 22 sections. Sometimes the sequence is changed or one theme will be pronounced while others are lessened. Nevertheless, these themes are a testimony to the confidence and the faith the psalmist had in his God.

This serves as a proper reminder to us that God is always deserving of praise no matter what. God is always God and we are always man and we must never forget this basic fact of our existence. God is to be praised. Period.

Yet trust in God and praise of God does not mean that every problem of life is erased. The psalmist had trouble on every hand. For examples of this, see verses 25,61,78, 143 and 161. God's people have always suffered at the hands of the wicked and always will. Is this not what Paul tells Timothy (and us) in 2 Tim. 3:12 -- that all "who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution"?

But while the psalmist finds suffering at the hands of others, he finds deliverance at the hands of the Almighty God. Consider examples such as verses

## Store In My Heart

### John 20:33-31

Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

The story of Jesus and His ministry was recorded purposely. John tells us that reading of these signs will allow us to believe the message of salvation through the sacrifice of God's Son. Since these proofs verify who is the Christ, they also verify that we can live for eternity when we follow His Word. We do not have blind faith. Our faith is built on the proof offered through the recorded Gospel from the inspired eyewitnesses.

41,42, 49,50, 77, 87,88 and 159. And is this not a truth that we must uphold as well? Trouble and heartache and suffering will come. But God delivers. God provides for our needs. We know this because God promised "all things work together for good to those who love God" (Rom. 8:28).

With this, the psalmist turns and again praises God. Most of these sections end with this thought. See verses 24,32,64,72 and 98 for examples of this. Perhaps, just as the stars of heaven are never seen so brightly until viewed against the darkest of night skies -- the richness of God's tender care for us and the praise it deserves is not seen so clearly until viewed against the darkness of persecution and mistreatment.

Having tried to sample some of the beauties of this psalm, let us finally see that the truths expressed here about the holy scriptures are in perfect harmony with those truths expressed in the New Testament. This is of course what we would expect from God's perfect revelation.

The psalmist makes clear that God's words guide us to salvation. Paul similarly writes that the holy scriptures are able to make one "wise for salvation" (2 Tim. 3:15). James likewise writes that we must receive with meekness the implanted word "which is able to save your souls" (Jas. 1:21).

The psalmist shows us that the scriptures help us to grow wise and understand God's truths. Rightly did Peter write that we must "desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:2).

Psalm 119 shows us that God's word is powerful and accomplishes God's purposes. The Hebrew writer as moved by the Holy Spirit agrees saying, "the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any