

We will begin our 13<sup>th</sup> lecture on the book of Psalms. /Our message is from Psalm 119. /Psalm 119 has the most verses out of all the chapters in the Bible, and it also is the longest chapter. /There are a total of 176 verses in the chapter.

/The Hebrew alphabet /starts with Aleph and ends with Tau. /It is made up of a total of 22 consonants. /Psalm 119's original text is recorded starting from Aleph and ending in Tau. /8 verses are grouped together into one group, and there are a total of 22 groupings.

/Verse 103 is the most important verse of Psalm 119. /It reads, "How sweet are your words to my taste." /God's words are sweeter than honey.

/Verses 1-3. Let us read. /Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

/Someone who is blameless is someone who walks in the law of the LORD. /To say it another way, /the one who walks in the law of the LORD is a blameless person. /Who does God acknowledge as the blameless person?

/The answer is someone who stands firmly in the word of truth and behaves accordingly. /It is someone who keeps his testimonies. /It is someone who seeks God with all his heart. /This person does no evil. /He walks in the ways of God.

/Verse 4 says that God teaches this person, /and this person keeps God's words. /We keep the laws that God has given to us. /The ways of the believer are steadfast.

/Verse 6 says that the believer is not put to shame when he keeps God's commandments. /God recognizes this person as he says, "You are a righteous person."

/Verses 9-10. /How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

/How can a young man keep his way pure? /People are high-spirited and active when they are young. /However, it is also a time when they lack judgment. /It is a time when young people do not have enough experience. /How can a young man make the right decisions?

/He can do so by guarding himself according to the word of God, by making himself pure. /He becomes pure when he listens to God's words and guards his way. /Verse 10 says that I seek God with my whole heart. /The believer is making an effort to not stray from God's commandments.

/We believers lean our hearts so that we do not sin. /We also preach the word of God and teach it. /Verse 14 says that people like riches. /However, the believer delights in the way

of the Lord's testimonies. He also meditates on the word of God. /Verse 16 says that I delight in the Lord's statutes. /The truth is more valuable to us than riches.

/Verses 17-19. /Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep your word. Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. I am a sojourner on the earth; hide not your commandments from me!

/We are living as sojourners. /We must keep God's commandments. /We are able to stand on the right path when we obey God's commandments. /The word of God is like a map for us.

/We are able to reach our destination when we follow the guidance of the word. /It is not easy for us to follow the word of God. /There are believers who grow weary as they try to follow the word.

/There are those who collapse as they are fighting the good fight of faith. /There are those who run in their faith but grow tired and fall down. /However, we are people who keep God's testimonies. /People may slander us, /mock us, and criticize us, /but we must rejoice in God's word and follow it.

/Verses 25-27. /My soul clings to the dust; give me life according to your word! When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes! Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

/Verse 25 says that my soul clings to the dust. / "Dust" refers to the dirt of the earth. /Thus we are insignificant beings. /What happens to us when God takes away our life? /If this happens, our bodies start to decay immediately.

/Our bodies also return to dust. /Everyone eventually will return to the dust. /The believer is someone who lives according to the word of the Lord. /Verse 26 says that God answers us when we live according to his word.

/Verse 27 says that God guides us when we keep the way of his precepts. /In verse 28, God strengthens me according to his word. /God graciously teaches us his law in verse 29. /We are following the word.

/We do not follow people. /We are people who follow the word. /We must keep the Lord's word. /Verse 31 says that we must cling to God's word at all costs. /We need to firmly hold onto the word of the Lord.

/This means that we keep the word of God. /However, trouble will enter our lives. /There will be trouble coming from the outside and from the inside. /But God will not put us to shame. /He will open the gate for us.

/Verses 33-35. /Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

/Teach me the way of your statutes, O Lord. /I will keep it to the end. /Verse 34 says, "Give me understanding." /I will keep your law.

/Verse 35 says, "Lead me in the path of your commandments, /for I delight in it." /Verse 35 asks God "to incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain." /Verse 37 says, "Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things."

/What is this worthless thing? /It is talking about our vanity. /Then what is vanity? /God forbids us from doing something. /It goes against the Bible. /However, I do it anyway.

/Even though God hates what I'm doing, I try to do it. /This is a personal obsession. /This is vanity. /Help me so that I do not follow my vanity. /Help me to find life by walking in your way.

/Verse 38 says that God gives his word of promise to the person who fears him. /Verse 39 asks God to "turn away the reproach that I dread." /Verse 40 says, "Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life."

/Verses 41-42. /Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise; then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in your word.

/Let your steadfast love and salvation come to me according to your word. /I trust in your word. /Verse 42 says that people may taunt me, but I have an answer for them. /I trust in God's word.

/Verse 43 says, "Take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth." /My hope is in your rules. /Verse 44 says that I am always keeping the Lord's law. /I will keep your law continually, forever and ever.

/Verse 45 says that I will walk in a wide place because I have sought God's precepts. /Verse 46 says that I will speak of God's testimonies before kings. /We can prosper in the long run if we keep the law of God. /We can find freedom when we keep God's word.

/There is true freedom there. /We find freedom in the truth. /John 8:32 talks about this. /Dwell in the truth. /And the truth will set you free.

/Believers! Do you love the Lord's commandments? /We must obey his commandments. /If we love the Lord's commandments, /we must completely surrender to God. /We must deeply meditate on his word.

/Verses 49-52. /Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope. This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life. The insolent utterly

deride me, but I do not turn away from your law. When I think of your rules from of old, I take comfort, O LORD.

/I remember your word. /I put my hope in your word. /When the believer lives in faith, suffering will come. /But through the Lord's word, I am comforted.

/In verse 51, proud people deride believers. /Even still, we do not turn away from God's law. /Verse 52 tells us that we must remember the Lord's rules from of old. /Jeremiah 6:16 also mentions this. /Remember the ancient paths.

/Verse 54 says that we live as sojourners. /Verse 55 says that as the believer sojourns, we sing songs at night. /Do not forget God's law as you pass through the night of trouble. /Verse 56 says that blessing has fallen to us because we keep God's precepts.

/Verse 57. /The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

/The verse says that the LORD is my portion. /God is my heritage. /I have promised to keep God's words. /We have made a promise with God. /We have promised to love God. /We have promised to keep his word. /What is the path that God wants?

/Verses 60-61. /I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments. Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law.

/When we keep God's commandments, we must make haste to obey. /When we obey, we need to obey immediately. /Verse 61 says that we will not forget the Lord's law even though the cords of the wicked ensnare us.

/Verse 62 says that we will seek God's word when the dark night falls. /Verse 63 says that I am the friend of someone who fears the Lord. /I am friends with those who keep God's word.

/Verses 65-67. /You have dealt well with your servant, O LORD, according to your word. Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments. Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.

/God deals well with his believer, according to his word. /We believe in the Lord's commandments. /Therefore we are able to have good judgment. /We have proper knowledge. /Verse 67 says that I did not know much about God's word until I was afflicted. /In my affliction, I came to understand God's word.

/Verse 71. /It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.

/We gain from our affliction. /I have come to understand the Lord's word through suffering. /How was I before? /Verse 70 says that my heart was unfeeling like fat. /We used to have dull senses.

/Our hearts were like fat. /We were numb to our sin, /and we were numb as to how we should carry out the will of God. /We did not know how to give God joy. /We were ignorant and numb.

/We know that the law that comes from God's mouth is precious. /Verse 72 says that this law is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. /God's word is more valuable than riches. /Among other things, the truth that we have come to understand is most valuable.

/Verses 76-78. /Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant. Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. Let the insolent be put to shame, because they have wronged me with falsehood; as for me, I will meditate on your precepts.

/In verse 73, God teaches me his commandments and helps me to understand them. /I place my hope in God's word. /Verse 74 says that those who fear God rejoice when they see me rejoicing in God's word.

/In verse 76, I plead with God. /Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your word. /I am someone who follows the word. /In verse 77, I ask that God's word become my greatest delight.

/We follow the word, and we find joy. /We are believers who live because of the word. /Verse 78 says that the insolent threaten us and attack us without reason. /However, the believer is strong because of the word of God. /The believer is never put to shame.

/Verse 81. /My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.

/There is a believer who longs for God's salvation. /This believer is exhausted. /However, he puts his hope in God's word. /In verse 82, the believer's eyes are tired. /God will help me. /God will protect me.

/When will the Lord comfort me? /Will he pay them back for treating me unfairly? /Verse 83 says that I have not forgotten the Lord's statutes. /I am praying to God. /I will not turn away from the word of God.

/I will trust in the word until the end. /I will follow the word until the end. /Why doesn't the believer give up in his suffering? /Verse 86 provides the answer. /God's commandments are sure. /They are firm.

/Verse 89. /Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

/God's word is firmly fixed in the heavens. /This symbolizes God's unchanging word. /God created the entire universe with his words.

/God's words are words of creation. /They are words of judgment. /His words save us.  
/The believer must follow God's rules until the very end.

/Verses 92-93. /If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.

/Verse 92 reads, "If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction." /If we did not have God's word, we would have already perished. /Verse 93 says I will not forget the Lord's precepts.

/I am living because of the word of God. /I exist because of the word of God. /I am learning your precepts through the word. /These precepts are the perfect words of God.

/Verses 97-100. /Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

/The believer is someone who loves the law of God. /I meditate on his word all day long. /We are reading the words of the Bible.

/When you are reading the Bible, try to look for verses that are connected with each other. /We need to try to deeply understand the word of God. /Also, keep thinking about the word in which you received grace. /Meditate on the word.

/Verse 98 says that the Lord's commandments are ever with me. /We become wiser than our enemies and our teachers /when we follow his commandments. /Also, if we follow the word, we become wiser than the aged.

/Verses 103-104. /How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

/God's words are delicious. /They are sweeter than honey. /God's words are words like honey. /Are God's words as sweet as honey to you?

<Approximately 3 lines deleted>

/His words are definitely sweet. /To the believer who keeps the word of God, /the word does taste sweet like honey. Psalm 19:10. /Thus we must long for the words of the Bible. /We become alive when we do this. /We also need to diligently read the Bible. /Revelation 1:3.

/Verses 105-107. /Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules. I am severely afflicted; give me life, O LORD, according to your word!

/God's word is a lamp to my feet. /It is a light to my path. /God guides me by shining the light of his word. /The Lord's word guides me. /He guides me to the path in which he delights.

/He leads me to the path that gives me life. /People of the world chase after money. /They also put their trust in people. /What do we believers follow? /What do we look to as we live our lives? /We believers follow and look to the word of God. /The word of God is our eternal heritage.

/Verses 113-115. /I hate the double-minded, but I love your law. You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word. Depart from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my God.

/Some people are double-minded. /Matthew 6:24 talks about two masters. /The person loves both money and God at the same time. /James 1:8 calls this person double-minded and unstable. /He is a suspicious person.

/What does it mean to be double-minded /Jeremiah 2:13 also tells us about this. /A double-minded person loves both God /and idols.

<Approximately 5 lines deleted>

/The believer must love the law of God. /Verse 114 says that the Lord is my hiding place and my shield. /The believer must look only to the word of God.

/Verse 127 says that the believer loves the Lord's commandments more than he loves fine gold. /We need to love the word more than we love the world's money or glory.

<Approximately 15 lines deleted>

/Verse 131 says that /the believer opens his mouth and pants because he longs for the Lord's commandments. /The believer thirsts for the word of God. Psalm 42:1. /He is someone who longs for God's word. /He earnestly desires to learn God's word of truth. / This person finds delight in understanding God's grace and learning the truth.

/Verses 141-144. /I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts. Your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is true. Trouble and anguish have found me out, but your commandments are my delight. Your testimonies are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.

/Verse 141 says, "I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts." /The law of the Lord is truth. /It is also fair that God punishes us. /When I am suffering, it is because God has allowed it. /The believer follows the word of God because he loves God. /Song of Solomon 8:6.

/Verse 144 says that the Lord's testimonies are righteous forever. /The word of the Lord is the word of truth. /Troubles and worries may find me, but I will delight in God's commandments.

/Verses 145-148. /With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD! I will keep your statutes. I call to you; save me, that I may observe your testimonies. I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in your words. My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promise.

/There is a believer who cries out to God. /He keeps the word of God until the very end. /However, he encounters a night of hardship. /The believer cries out to God. /He has risen before dawn.

/The believer is crying to God for help early in the morning. /I trust in your words. /I meditate on your words. /My eyes are awake through the night as I meditate and pray.

/I trust in the word of God, and I am praying. /We need to wake up before dawn and pray. Psalm 46:5. /Then, God will help us.

/Verses 153-154. /Look on my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget your law. Plead my cause and redeem me; give me life according to your promise!

/Who is God? /God is the one who delivers me. /He is the God who saves me. /He is the God who gives me life. /We believers must believe that God will deliver us from the people who persecute us.

/Verses 162-163. /I rejoice at your word like one who finds great spoil. I hate and abhor falsehood, but I love your law.

/I will long for the word of God like those who find great spoil. /We need to be glad in the word of the Lord. /Then great peace will come upon us. /God will also guide us in our way.

/Verses 173-174. /Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts. I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

/The believer has chosen the Lord's precepts. /God's hand is the believer's help. /I long for your salvation, /and I delight in your blessings.

/Verse 176. /I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

/The believer is like a lost sheep, /but God's word guides the believer. /I will not forget your commandments. /In this way, we must love the word of God, and we must obey it.

/This concludes our 13<sup>th</sup> lecture on the book of Psalms. /Thank you.