

The Psalmist's Desire Should Be Our Desire

Text: Psalm 119:1-3

Background:

- 1) The human author of Psalm 119
 - a) Most people conclude that this Psalm was written by _____.
 - b) He is depicted as a _____ saint who looked to God's law as a source of joy in his troubles.
 - c) Has been called a "Poet with a _____ for the Word of God"
- 2) About Psalm 119
 - a) This Psalm is arranged in an _____ pattern.
 - b) There are __ letters in the Hebrew alphabet, and this Psalm contains 22 sections of 8 verses each. Each of the 22 sections is given to a letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and each line in that section begins with that letter.
 - Remember: In Hebrew, words and sentences read right to left.
 - c) The theme of this chapter is the Word of God. In fact, 173 of the 176 verse refer to God's Word. What synonyms can you find?
 - i) J _____
 - ii) C _____
 - iii) T _____
 - iv) S _____
 - v) L _____
 - vi) W _____ - appears most often
 - vii) The 3 verses that do not refer to God's Word, reference His character: 119:90, 122, 132. What character traits?
- 3) Psalms is a book of poetry. Hebrew poetry often follows the concept of _____, while English poetry consists of rhyme and meter. Parallelism is to lay parallel thoughts, words or phrases alongside each

other to contrast, complement and instruct. (Most easily seen in the Proverbs)

Introduction: Read Psalm 119:1-8

- Observations:
 - a) Q: Did you notice the _____ person plural is used in the first four verses and then the author changes to _____ person singular?
 - b) Blessed = _____ !

1) Blessedness is to be _____ in the Way (Psalm 119:1)

- a) What way?
 - i) The most popular way? The most entertaining way? What way?
 - ii) Matthew 7:14
 - iii) John 14:6
 - iv) It is interesting to note how Paul refers to Christians in Acts 22:4
- b) This was Jesus' prayer request: John 17:13-15

2) Blessedness is to _____ His Testimonies (Psalm 119:2a)

- a) Is it a blessing to _____ God's Word?
- b) What does Ephesians 2:10 teach us about obedience?

Conclusion:

- 1) How _____ are you in your _____ with God?
- 2) It is directly related to knowing God (relationally) through His Word.
- 3) What can you do about this? What can you ask God to do?

Helpful resources: E-sword.net; Psalm 119 by Pastor Jeff Adams; Outlines to Study the Scriptures by Pastor Jonathan Watson