

KEEPING GOD'S PRECEPTS DILIGENTLY

Psalm 119:1-8

OUTLINE OF PSALM 119:1-8

1. Observations of a godly life Psalm 119:1-3
 - a. Those who are undefiled are blessed
 - b. They walked in His ways
 - c. They keep His word
 - d. They do no iniquity
 - e. They seek the Lord with the whole heart
2. God and His word Psalm 119:4-6
 - a. The Commandment from God is to keep His precepts word diligently
 - b. Prayer of the Psalmist to God with reference to the word of God
 - i. For God to direct his ways to keep His commandments
 - ii. For God to not forsake him utterly
3. Responses Psalm 119:7-8
 - a. Determination to praise the Lord with an upright heart
 - b. Determination to keep His word

DISCUSSIVE APPROACH

A. WHAT IS THE CORE IDEA WITH REFERENCE TO READING THE SCRIPTURES / OUR WALK WITH GOD?

It is obedience.

"You have commanded us to keep your precepts diligently..." Psalm 119:4

1. It is keeping the word of God
 - a. It is repeated four times Psalm 119:2,4,5,8
 - b. It is a commandment from God
2. It is keeping the word of God diligently
3. It is good to do an honest evaluation of our keeping of God's word

B. WHAT ARE POSSIBLE PROBLEMS?

1. Heart - Little inclination to follow God's word and way

"Oh, that my ways were directed to keep your statutes!" Psalm 119:5

- a. There is little inclination in the heart to follow the ways of the Lord.

- b. There is greater inclination to following our own ways
- c. The Psalmist struggled with his own ways and sin
- d. They were not directed to keeping His word
- e. There was a lack of direction in life
- f. There is a tussle between our ways and God's ways

2. Mind and heart - Little knowledge of God's word

"When I learn your righteous judgement..." Psalm 119:7

- a. There is the problem of having little knowledge
- b. The psalmist was writing about learning the righteous judgment
- c. He was not learning the right lessons as he should
- d. We do not have the knowledge of God as we should have
- e. We are not learning deep enough

C. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF NOT KEEPING GOD'S WORD?

1. Heart - Feeling ashamed

"Then I would not be ashamed when I look into all Your commandments." Psalm 119:6

- a. Shame comes when we don't understand the Scriptures
- b. Shame comes when we are not keeping His word
- c. Shame comes when we do not remember His word
- d. Shame comes when we read His word

2. Heart - Feeling being forsaken by God

"Oh, do not forsake me utterly..." Psalm 119:8

- a. He was not totally sure that he was going to make it
- b. He was not totally sure about the outcome
- c. He felt that God was far away

D. HOW CAN WE OVERCOME THESE STRUGGLES?

1. Seeing Possibility / Potential / Being inspired through seeing those blessed by the Lord

"Blessed are the undefiled in the way who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep His testimonies and who seek Him with the whole heart. They do no iniquity. They walk in His ways." Psalm 119:1-2

- a. By observations of examples
- b. By affirmation
 - i. They are blessed

- ii. The word “blessed” is repeated twice
- iii. It is observable that they are blessed
 - a) Spiritually
 - b) Physically

2. Heartfelt Prayer to God

“Oh, that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes.” Psalm 119:5

‘Oh, do not forsake me utterly!’ Psalm 119:8

3. Personal learning - The mind and heart learning together

“I will praise You with uprightness of heart, when I learn your righteous judgment...” Psalm 119:

4. Personal determination

- a. To keep His word

“I will keep Your statutes...” Psalm 119:8

- b. To praise the Lord with an upright heart

“I will praise You with uprightness of heart...” Psalm 119: