

PSALM 119

from "The Bay Psalm Book"

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Aleph

1. All-bless'd are men upright of way: walk in Jehovah's law who do.
2. Bless'd such as do His records keep; with their whole heart Him seek, also.
3. And that work no iniquity; but in His ways do walk, indeed.
4. Thou hast giv'n charge, with diligence unto Thy precepts to give heed.
5. Ah, that to keep Thy statutes - so my ways addressed were by Thee!
6. When I respect Thy precepts, all, then shall I not ashamed be.
7. When I Thy righteous judgements learn, with heart's uprightness I'll Thee praise.
8. Forsake Thou me not utterly: I will observe Thy statute-ways.

Beth

9. By what may 'young man cleanse his way? By heeding it as Thy Word guides.
10. With my whole heart, Thee have I sought: Thy laws, let me not go besides.
11. I in my heart Thy word have hid: that I might not against Thee sin.
12. Thou, oh, Jehovah, blessed art: Thine own statutes instruct me in.
13. All the just judgements of Thy mouth declar-ed with my lips have I.
14. I, in Thy testimonies' way, joy more than in all rich plenty.
15. In Thy precepts I'll meditate, and have respect unto Thy ways.
16. Myself I'll solace in Thy laws, and not forget what Thy Word says.

Gimel

17. Confer this grace Thy servant to: that I may live Thy Word to keep.
18. Unveil mine eyes that I may see, out of Thy law, the wonders deep.
19. I am a stranger in the earth: do not Thy precepts from me hide.
20. My soul is broken with desire unto Thy judgements, time and tide.
21. Thou hast rebuk'd the proud acurs'd, which do from Thy commandments swerve.
22. Roll off from me reproach and scorn, for I Thy records do observe.
23. Ev'n princes sat and 'gainst me spake; but on Thy laws thy servant mused.
24. Thy records also are my joys, and for men of my counsel used.

Daleth

25. Down to the dust, my soul cleaves fast: oh, quicken me after Thy Word!
26. I show'd my ways and Thou me heardst: Thy statutes, learning me afford.
27. Thy precepts' way, make me to know, so I'll muse on Thy wondrous ways.

28. My soul doth melt for heaviness! According to Thy Word, me raise.
29. The way of lying from me take, and Thy law grant me graciously.
30. The way of truth, I chosen have: Thy judgements 'fore me laid, have I.
31. Thy testimonies, cleave I to. Oh, Lord, on me shame do not cast!
32. Then shall I run Thy precepts' way, when Thou mine heart enlarged hast.

He

33. En-form me, Lord, in Thy law's path, and I will keep it to the end.
34. Skill give me, and Thy law I'll keep: yea, with my whole heart it attend.
35. Cause me to tread Thy precepts' path, because therein delight I do.
36. Unto Thy records bend my heart; and covetousness not unto.
37. From vain sights turn away mine eyes: and in Thy way make me to live.
38. Confirm Thy Word Thy servant to, who to Thy fear himself doth give.
39. My slander, which I fear, remove; because Thy judgements, good they be.
40. Lo, for Thy precepts I have long'd. Oh, in Thy justice, quicken me!

Vau

41. Find me out, let Thy mercies, Lord: Thy saving health, as Thou hast said.
42. So, I my taunters answer shall; for on Thy Word my hope is staid.
43. Nor truths' word quite from my mouth take: because Thy judgements I attend.
44. So, I Thy law shall alway keep, to everlasting, without end.
45. And I will walk at liberty, because I do Thy precepts seek.
46. Nor will I blush, when before kings, I of Thy testimonies speak.
47. In Thy commands, which I have loved, also myself delight, I will;
48. and lift my hands to Thy commands, beloved; and mind Thy statutes, still.

Zain

49. Good to Thy servant make the Word on which to hope Thou didst me give.
50. This was my comfort in my grief: because Thy Word doth make me live.
51. The proud have much derided me; yet have I not Thy law declined.
52. Thy judgments, Lord, that are of old, I did recall, and comfort find.
53. Horror hath taken hold on me, for lewd men that Thy law forsake.
54. I, in my pilgrimage's house, of Thy statutes my songs do make.
55. By night remembered I Thy name, O Lord; and I Thy law observe.
56. This hath been unto me: because I from Thy precepts did not swerve.

Cheth

57. He, ev'n the Lord, my portion is! I said that I would keep Thy Word.
58. With my whole heart, Thy face I begged! Thy promised mercies me afford.
59. I thought upon my ways, and turn'd my feet into Thy testaments.

60. I hasted and made no delays to keep, with heed, Thy commandments.
61. The bands of wicked men me robbed! Of Thy law I am not mindless.
62. I'll rise at midnight Thee to praise for judgments of Thy righteousness.
63. Companion am I to all them that fear Thee, and Thy laws do heed.
64. Thy mercy fills the earth, O Lord! Teach me the Laws Thou hast decreed.

Teth

65. Jehovah, with Thy servant, Thou, after Thy Word, right-well hast done.
66. Good taste and knowledge teach Thou me, for I believe Thy precepts on.
67. Before I was chastised, I strayed: but I Thy Word observed have now.
68. Thou art good, and art doing good: Thy statutes teach me, oh, do Thou!
69. The proud against me forged a lie: Thy Laws I'll keep with my heart's might.
70. The heart of them is fat as grease: but in Thy law I do delight.
71. It's good for me, I was chastised, that so Thy statutes learn I should.
72. Better to me is Thy mouth's law, than thousands of silver and gold.

Jod

73. Know, make me, & I'll learn Thy laws! Thy hands, me, form-ed have, and made.
74. Who fear Thee, me shall see and joy, because hope in Thy Word I had.
75. Thy judgements, Lord, I know are just; and faithfully Thou chastened me.
76. As Thou hast to Thy servant spoke, now let Thy grace my comfort be.
77. Send me Thy grace, that I may live; for Thy law as my joy I choose.
78. Shame proud ones, that me falsely wrong: but I will in Thy precepts muse.
79. Let them that fear Thee turn to me, and such as have Thy records known.
80. Let my heart be in Thy laws found, that so I shame may suffer none.

Caph

81. Look for Thy Word, I do - when as my soul doth faint - for help from Thee.
82. Mine eyes have fail-ed for Thy Word, saying "When wilt Thou comfort me!"
83. I, like a smoke-dried bottle, am; yet do I not Thy laws forgo.
84. What are Thy servants days? When wilt on my pursuers, judgement do?
85. The proud have digg-ed pits for me, which do not unto Thy law suit.
86. All Thy commands are truth. Help me! They wrongfully me persecute!
87. They nigh had wasted me on earth, but I Thy laws did not forsake.
88. To keep the records of Thy mouth, me in Thy mercy lively make.

Lamed

89. Made fast i'th heavens is Thy Word, oh Lord, forever to endure.
90. From age to age Thy faithfulness: Thou form'dst the earth, and it stands sure.
91. As Thou ordain'dst, they still abide; for all are servants Thee unto.

92. Had not Thy law been my delight, then had I perished in my woe.
93. Thy statutes I will ne'er forget, because by them Thou quick'nedst me.
94. Thine own am I: Save me! because I sought Thy precepts studiously.
95. The wicked watch me - me to 'stroy. But I Thy testimonies mind.
96. Of all perfection, end I see: but very large Thy law I find.

Mem

97. Now, how much do I love Thy law! It is my study all the day!
98. Thou mad'st me wiser than my foes by Thy rule: for it's with me aye.
99. I'm wiser than my teachers, all, for Thy records my study are.
100. I more than ancients understand, because I kept Thy laws with care.
101. From each ill path my feet I strayed, that so I might Thy Word observe.
102. Because Thou hast instructed me, I did not from Thy judgments swerve.
103. How sweet are Thy words to my taste! To my mouth more than honey they.
104. I from Thy precepts wisdom learn: therefore I hate each lying way.

Nun

105. Of my feet is Thy word the lamp, and to my path the shining light.
106. Sworn have I, and will it perform, that I will keep Thy judgments, right.
107. I am afflicted very much: Lord, quicken me after Thy Word.
108. Accept my mouth's free off'rings now, and me Thy judgments teach, oh Lord.
109. My soul is always in my hand; but I have not Thy law forgot.
110. The wicked laid for me a snare; yet from Thy laws I stray-ed not.
111. Thy records are mine heritage for aye: for my heart's joy they be.
112. I bent my heart still to perform Thy statutes to eternity.

Samech

113. Pursue I do, with hatred, all vain thoughts: but love Thy law, do I.
114. My covert and my shield art Thou: I on Thy Word wait hopefully.
115. Depart from me, lewd men, that I may keep my God's comman-d-ments.
116. By Thy Word, stay me, and I live: nor shame me for my confidence.
117. Sustain me, and I shall be safe: and in Thy law, still, I'll delight.
118. Thou tread'st down all that from Thy laws do stray, for false is their deceit.
119. All th'earth's lewd ones, like dross, Thou 'stoy'dst; therefore, Thy records, love, I do.
120. For fear of Thee, my flesh doth quake: I do Thy judgments dread, also.

Ain

121. Quite to oppressors, leave me not: I judgment do, and righteousness.
122. Thy servant's surety be for good: let not the proud ones me oppress.
123. Mine eyes for Thy salvation fail: as also for Thy righteous Word.

124. In mercy with Thy servant deal, and Thy law's learning me afford.
125. I am Thy servant: make me wise, Thy testimonies for to know.
126. Time for Thee, Lord, it is to work, for men Thy law do overthrow.
127. Therefore do I Thy precepts love above gold, yea, the finest gold.
128. All false paths hate I: for Thy rules of all things are all right, I hold.

Pe

129. Right wondrous are Thy testimonies: therefore, my soul keeps them with care.
130. The entrance of Thy words gives light, and makes them wise that simple are.
131. I gape and pant for Thy precepts, because I long-ed for the same.
132. Look on me, and such grace me show, as Thou dost them that love Thy name.
133. My steps by Thy Word guide: and let no wickedness bear rule in me.
134. From men's oppression me redeem, and Thy law's keeper will I be.
135. Make Thy face on Thy servant shine, and me to learn Thy statutes, cause.
136. Mine eyes run floods of waters down, because they do not keep Thy laws.

Tzaddi

137. Sincerely just art Thou, O Lord; Thy judgments upright are, also.
138. Thy testimonies Thou command'st are right; yea, very faithful, too.
139. My zeal consum-ed me, because mine enemies Thy words forget.
140. Thy Word, it is exceeding pure: therefore Thy servant loveth it.
141. Small am I, and contemptible, yet, Thy commands forget not I.
142. Thy justice, justice is for aye: also Thy law is verity.
143. Distress and anguish seized on me, yet, Thy commands delights me give.
144. Thy record's justice lasts for aye. Make Thou me wise, and I shall live.

Roph

145. To me, that cry with my whole heart, Lord, hear! Thy statutes keep I will.
146. I unto Thee did cry: save me, and I shall keep Thy records, still.
147. The dawning I prevent, and cry: I for Thy Word do hopeful wait.
148. Mine eyes prevent the night watches, in Thy Word for to meditate.
149. Lord, of Thy mercy hear my voice; after Thy judgments quicken me.
150. Who follow mischief, they draw nigh - who from Thy law afar off be.
151. But, oh, Jehovah, Thou art near, and all Thy precepts verity.
152. I, long since, of Thy records knew: Thou laid'st them from eternity.

Resh

153. View mine affliction, and me free: for I Thy law do not forget.
154. Plead Thou my cause, and me redeem: for Thy word's sake, alive me set.
155. Salvation from lewd men is far, since they Thy laws to find ne'er strive.

156. Great are Thy bowels-mercies, Lord; after Thy judgments me revive.
157. Many my foes and hunters are, yet I not from Thy records swerve.
158. I saw transgressors, and was grieved, for they Thy Word do not observe.
159. See, Lord, that I Thy precepts love! Grant of Thy bounty, live I may.
160. Thy Word's beginning it is truth: and all Thy right judgments for aye.

Schin

161. Without cause, princes me pursue; but of Thy Word my heart's in awe.
162. As one that hath much booty found, so I rejoice, do, in Thy law.
163. Lying, I hate, and it abhor; but Thy law dearly love do I.
164. Sev'n times a day, I praise Thee, for the judgments of Thine equity.
165. Great peace have they that love Thy law; and such shall find no stumbling stone.
166. I hoped for Thy salvation, Lord; and Thy commandments I have done.
167. My soul Thy testimonies keeps, and them I love exceedingly.
168. I keep Thy rules and Thy records: for all my ways before Thee be.

Tau

169. Yield, Lord, my cry t'approach Thy face: as Thou hast spoke, me prudent make.
170. Let my request before Thee come: deliver me for Thy Word's sake.
171. My lips shall utter forth Thy praise, when Thou Thy laws hast learn-ed me.
172. My tongue shall forth Thy Word resound, for all Thy precepts justice be.
173. To help me, let Thy hand be near; for Thy commandments chose have I.
174. I long for Thy salvation, Lord: and my delights in Thy law lie.
175. Let my soul live, and show Thy praise: help me, also, Thy judgments, let.
176. Like lost sheep strayed, Thy servant seek: for I Thy laws do not forget.