

Sunday Night Message

October 23, 2016




























Psalms 119:153 – 160 – *Quicken Me*

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 119:153 - 160

Introduction

We are continuing our examination of the longest Psalm as well as the longest chapter of the Bible. As we discussed last week, this psalm is a Hebrew acrostic where every eight verses are separated into sections where the first letter of each verse begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The first eight verses each begin with “Aleph”, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Verses 9 – 16 all begin with “Beth”; verses 17 – 24 all begin with Gimel; and, so on.

									
Yod (Y)	Tet (T)	Chet (Ch)	Zayin (Z)	Vav (V)	He (H)	Dalet (D)	Gimel (G)	Bet (B/V)	Alef (silent)
									
Ayin (silent)	Samech (S)	Nun (N)	Nun (N)	Mem (M)	Mem (M)	Lamed (L)	Khaf (Kh)	Kaf (K/Kh)	
									
Tav (T)	Shin (Sh/S)	Resh (R)	Qof (Q)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Feh (F)	Peh (P/F)		

We do not know the writer of this psalm, though we think it must have been a “high profile” person, perhaps a king or a priest. Nor do we know the historical context. There is no doubt, however, as to the theme of the psalm. 170 out of the 175 verses in this psalm speak directly regarding the Word of God. The writer to this psalm is expressing his love and devotion to the Word of God, and is encouraging us to do the same.

Phillips has said regarding the anonymity of the writer:

Throughout this psalm we are made aware that the singer is in trouble. We would like to know who he was—David, perhaps, or Daniel, or Hezekiah. But since he has remained

anonymous (making this psalm one of the “orphan psalms” of the Hebrew hymn book) the Holy Spirit intends his sufferings to be of universal significance. Any beleaguered saint of God can put his or her name at the head of this psalm and sing it themselves.¹

“RESH”

“Resh” is the 20th letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

*“Consider mine affliction, and **deliver me**: for I do not forget thy law.” - (Psalm 119:153)*

*“Plead my cause, and deliver me: **quicken me** according to thy word.” - (Psalm 119:154)*

“Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.” - (Psalm 119:155)

*“Great are thy tender mercies, O LORD: **quicken me** according to thy judgments.” - (Psalm 119:156)*

“Many are my persecutors and mine enemies; yet do I not decline from thy testimonies.” - (Psalm 119:157)

“I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.” - (Psalm 119:158)

*“Consider how I love thy precepts: **quicken me**, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness.” - (Psalm 119:159)*

“Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.” - (Psalm 119:160)

Notice the phrase – “deliver me” in verse 153, and the phrase “quicken me” in verses 154, 156, and 159. The word quicken means to revive or to give life; or to preserve life. It can be used in both a physical context (as in preserve my life in the face of an enemy) as well as a spiritual one.

“For the word of God is quick (ζάω – zaō – to live), and powerful (ἐνεργής - energēs – active, working, energetic), and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” – (Hebrews 4:12)

¹ Phillips, J. (2012). Exploring Psalms 89–150: An Expository Commentary (Vol. 2, Ps 119:81–88). Kregel Publications; WORDsearch Corp.

“The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? Saith the LORD. Is not my word like as a fire?

Saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his horough. Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith. Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.” – (Jeremiah 23:28-32)

“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.” – (John 6:63)

“Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither horoug in vain.” – (Philippians 2:16)

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;” – (1 John 1:1)

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” – (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.” – (Psalm 119:130)

Turn to Psalm 19:7 – 14 to see honey as a picture of the Word of God.

“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” - (Psalm 119:103)

Turn to 1 Samuel 14:24 – 30 to see honey as a picture of how the Word of God brings life.

The Word of God brings life to those who read it, believe it, and obey it.

Life may be in the form of encouragement for those who are discouraged.

Life may be in the form of wisdom for those who don't know what to do.

Life may be in the form of faith for those who are ready to quit.

Life may be in the form of peace for those who are surrounded by turmoil.