

## Psalms 119:105-136 – Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. 106 I have sworn and confirmed That I will keep Your righteous judgments. 107 I am afflicted very much; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word. 108 Accept, I pray, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, And teach me Your judgments. 109 My life is continually in my hand, Yet I do not forget Your law. 110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, Yet I have not strayed from Your precepts. 111 Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever, For they are the rejoicing of my heart. 112 I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes Forever, to the very end.

- I don't know if it's possible to overstate the importance of this truth concerning God's Word as a light in the midst of darkness.
- Truth be made known, we could spend the entire evening talking about examples from our own lives in regards to this truth.
- Moreover, we could spend even more time reflecting on the many places in God's Word that speak to how it lights our way.

113 I hate the double-minded, But I love Your law. 114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word. 115 Depart from me, you evildoers, For I will keep the commandments of my God! 116 Uphold me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope. 117 Hold me up, and I shall be safe, And I shall observe Your statutes continually. 118 You reject all those who stray from Your statutes, For their deceit is falsehood. 119 You put away all the wicked of the earth like dross; Therefore I love Your testimonies. 120 My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your judgments.

- This stanza here in Psalm 119 is probably as good of a place as any to revisit what the fear of the Lord is and also what it's not.
- To fear the Lord is to have a deep reverence and be in awe of God, such that, we understand His hatred and judgment for sin.
- As such, the fear of the Lord isn't characterized by being scared of God, or in any way fear that God will become angry with us.

121 I have done justice and righteousness; Do not leave me to my oppressors. 122 Be surety for Your servant for good; Do not let the proud oppress me. 123 My eyes fail from seeking Your salvation And Your righteous word. 124 Deal with Your servant according to Your mercy, And teach me Your statutes. 125 I am Your servant; Give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies. 126 It is time for You to act, O LORD, For they have regarded Your law as void. 127 Therefore I love Your commandments More than gold, yes, than fine gold! 128 Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way.

- To me the take away from this section is the Word of God being more valuable than fine gold meaning money and possessions.
- The Word of God is replete with passage after passage that speaks to this because of the paramount importance of this truth.
- One need look no further than to the lives of those who have accumulated the wealth of this world to realize it's all emptiness.

- Money can buy a house, but not a home
- Money can buy a clock, but not time
- Money can buy a book, but not knowledge
- Money can buy a bed, but not sleep
- Money can buy food, but not an appetite
- Money can buy a doctor, but not health
- Money can buy blood, but not life

129 Your testimonies are wonderful; Therefore my soul keeps them. 130 The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple. 131 I opened my mouth and panted, For I longed for Your commandments. 132 Look upon me and be merciful to me, As Your custom is toward those who love Your name. 133 Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me. 134 Redeem me from the oppression of man, That I may keep Your precepts. 135 Make Your face shine upon Your servant, And teach me Your statutes. 136 Rivers of water run down from my eyes, Because men do not keep Your law.

- What I find interesting about this stanza is that the Psalmist is actually heartbroken over the consequences of mankind's sin.
- It's for this reason that he pleads with God to protect him from iniquity and the dominion it can often times have in our lives.
- The Psalmist knows how dangerous and deadly sin is. Sin is not bad because it's forbidden, sin is forbidden because it's bad.