



The Wonder Of God's Word
Psalms 119

God's Word Cleanses
Verses 9-16

In this second stanza of the **Psalm** the subject is established in the opening question “*wherewithal* (by what means) **shall a young man cleanse his way**” (daily life). By “**young man**” the **Psalmist** is making reference to one who is inclined and disposed to sins, snares, and carnal lusts. The question is “*What remedy is there against these inclinations?*” It is a question regarding **purity**; “*How can one maintain purity in an impure world?*” “*How can one maintain holiness and godliness in an unholy and ungodly world?*” In this division of the **Psalm**, the **Psalmist** testifies and expresses his determination concerning the Word of God, and in so doing, there are eight ways listed in these verses, teaching us how to keep our lives pure.

1. PRACTICAL OBEDIENCE TO GOD’S WORD [verse 9]

“**by** (indicating the means of achieving something) **taking heed** (to give attention, to take notice of, to bear in mind, to be mindful of) **thereto** (referring back to “**his way**”) **according** (in agreement) **to thy word**” The Word of God is the **model**, the **pattern**, the **standard** and **measure** of purity and must be recognized as such. And if one is to maintain purity, they must give close **attention** and make honest **examination** into their daily life, putting it side by side with the Word of God! There must be the desire to have one’s daily life **harmonious** and **consistent** with the standard of God’s Word.

2. WHOLE-HEARTEDLY SEEKING TO DO THE WILL OF GOD [verse 10]

The **Psalmist** testifies “**With my whole heart have I sought thee**” These words are expressive of a longing for **fellowship** with God. PURITY WILL NEVER BE ATTAINED OR MAINTAINED WITHOUT A SEEKING OF GOD WITH THE HEART! The **Psalmist** prays “**O let me not wander from thy commandments**” This prayer must be viewed in the light of **seeking God**, for one cannot have fellowship with God by leaving God’s authoritative order. The **Psalmist** is concerned not only about a deliberate disregard of God’s “**commandments**” but also an inadvertent straying from such! In order to maintain purity, **fellowship** with God must be constantly sought and maintained, and this is done by adhering to the Word of God!

3. THE WORD OF GOD MUST HAVE A LODGING PLACE IN THE HEART [verse 11]

This testimony of the **Psalmist** reveals that the Word of God is a **deterrent** and a **protection** from sin. And in order for purity to be attained and maintained it must have an inside place [**Deuteronomy 6:6; 11:18; 30:11-14; Colossians 3:16**]. THE WORD OF GOD IN THE HEART EMPOWERS ONE TO RESIST SIN!

4. LEARNING GOD'S WORD AND MAKING IT THE RULE OF LIVING [verse 12]

The *Psalmist* prays “*teach me thy statutes*” If purity is to be maintained, one must continually be **educated, instructed, indoctrinated, trained,** and **enlightened** in the Word of God.

5. BY TAKING AN OPEN STAND FOR GOD'S TRUTH [verse 13]

This is the testimony of the *Psalmist* that he openly proclaimed, expressed, and asserted the Word of God. He gave similar testimony in **verse 46**. If purity is to be maintained, there must be a willingness to unashamedly and openly to stand for the Word of God

6. BY DELIGHTING IN GOD'S WAYS [verse 14]

This is the testimony of the *Psalmist* that he found the patterns and paths marked out in the Word of God to be a matter of great **joy** and **delight**. he also made the determination that he would delight in the Word of God [verse 16]. The “*way of thy testimonies*” leads to God, and if one is to maintain purity they must find **pleasure** in such!

7. BY MEDITATING IN GOD'S WORD [verses 15, 16].

“*I will meditate in thy precepts*” [verse 15]. “*I will not forget thy word*” [verse 16].

This is the determination of the *Psalmist* concerning his thoughts upon, and his mindset concerning the Word of God, and he also gave testimony of such in **verses 99, 148**. The maintaining of purity involves an ongoing **contemplating, considering, pondering,** and **reflecting** upon the Word of God.

8. BY RESPECTING THE WORD OF GOD [verse 15].

“*and have respect unto thy ways*” [verse 15]. This is the determination of the *Psalmist* concerning his **attitude** and **spirit** toward the Word of God. If purity is to be maintained there must be a high **esteem** and **regard** for the Word of God, a **reverence** and **admiration** toward the Word of God. THIS WILL MANIFEST ITSELF IN SUBMISSION TO THE WORD OF GOD! There will never be purity of life, where the Word of God is not given a place of **honor** and **esteem**!

This world is spiritually polluted and defiled, and our flesh is inclined toward the pollution and defilement of the world. There is a remedy to such, and there is a way for the child of God to stay pure in an impure world; THE DAILY APPLICATION OF THE WORD OF GOD!
