



The Wonder Of God's Word
Psalms 119

God's Word Gives Hope
Verses 49-56

This stanza opens with a plea concerning the promise of God **“Remember the word unto thy servant”** This is the plea of a **“servant”** a **dependent** upon a master. He is desirous for God to fulfill His word concerning the establishment of his house and kingdom [II Samuel 7:16-20]. This is not a plea for God to give a new and different promise, but a plea for God to renew his faith in the promise of His word, and give him some fresh assurance of the performance of it. The basis of the plea is **“upon which** (referring back to **“the word”**) **thou hast caused me to hope”** God had brought him to **“hope”** in His Word! God had created and produced within him a **“hope”** in God’s Word, and this **“hope”** was the basis of his plea. The **foundation** of his **“hope”** was **“the word”** [Romans 15:4]. In this stanza of the **119th Psalm** we see the characteristics of one who truly hopes in the Word of God.

1. THE ONE WHO TRULY HOPES IN GOD’S WORD FINDS COMFORT:

“This (referring back to his hope in the Word of God) **is** (present tense) **my** (personal) **comfort”** [verse 50]. The word **“comfort”** conveys the idea of **tranquility, calmness, contentment, support,** and **reassurance.** We read of the **“comfort of the scriptures”** [Romans 15:4]. The **Holy Spirit** is referred to as **“the Comforter”** [John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7], and His instrument of comfort is the Word of God! The **Psalmist** stated **“for thy word hath quickened me”** [verse 50]. This is the work of the **Holy Spirit** by use of the Word of God. **THERE IS COMFORT IN THE WORD OF GOD!** This **“comfort”** is while **“in.....affliction”** [verse 50]. **“Affliction”** speaks of **trouble, suffering, plague, distress, misery, adversity, sorrow,** and **torment.** **THERE IS COMFORT IN AFFLICTION FOUND IN THE WORD OF GOD** [Psalm 119:165]. There is **“comfort”** in **remembering** (recalling to memory) the Word of God. The **Psalmist** said **“I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself”** [verse 52].

2. THE ONE WHO TRULY HOPES IN GOD’S WORD DOES NOT DECLINE FROM IT:

“The proud have had me greatly in derision (have made me an object of **mockery**, and **ridicule**), **yet** (nevertheless, in spite of that), **have I not declined from thy law”** [verse 51]. The word **“decline”** means **“to reject, to refuse, or to dismiss”** The **Psalmist** is saying **“Even though I have been mocked and ridiculed, I have not rejected or dismissed the promise of God’s Word, for such is my hope”**

3. THE ONE WHO TRULY HOPES IN GOD'S WORD IS HORRIFIED BY DEPARTURES FROM THE WORD OF GOD:

The *Psalmist* based his **hope** upon what God said in His Word, and found **comfort** in such, and refused to dismiss the Word of God in his life. He had such a regard for the Word of God that he was **horror-stricken**, **terrified**, and **appalled** by those who forsook (abandoned, renounced, and discarded) the Word of God in their lives **[verse 53]**.

4. THE ONE WHO TRULY HOPES IN GOD'S WORD FINDS IT TO BE A SONG:

The *Psalmist* realized that this world was not his home, he spoke of ***“the house of my pilgrimage”*** **[verse 54]**. BUT HE WAS NOT LEFT WITHOUT A SONG! ***“Thy statutes have been my songs”*** A ***“song”*** speaks of **joy**, **gladness**, and **delight** **[Ephesians 5:19]**. At salvation the *Lord* put a new song in our hearts **[Psalm 40:3]**, and the *Lord* uses His Word to give ***“songs in the night”*** **[Job 35:10; Psalm 77:6]**, and the *Psalmist* declared in **verse 55** of the **119th Psalm** ***“I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night”*** and such put a song in his heart! THE WORD OF GOD IS THE GREATEST SONG BOOK OF ALL, AND HAS INSPIRED MORE SONGS THAN ALL!

5. THE ONE WHO TRULY HOPES IN GOD'S WORD DESIRES TO KEEP IT:

The *Psalmist* spoke of **keeping** the Word of God **[verse 55]**, and then he spoke of the results of such; ***“This I had*** (hope, comfort, pleasure), ***because I kept thy precepts”*** **[verse 56]**.

In a world filled with difficulties, where the child of God is just passing through, and finds himself as a stranger, there is abounding **hope**, amazing **comfort**, and marvelous **pleasure** and **joy** in not dismissing the Word of God, but keeping it faithfully! THE WORD OF GOD IS A SOURCE OF WHAT THE WORLD KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT!
