



*The Wonder Of God's Word*  
*Psalm 119*

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*God's Word Reveals Mercy*  
*Verses 57-64*

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This stanza opens with a **statement**; ***“Thou art my portion, O LORD”*** which means that God was the **preference** of his life, the **treasure** of his life, and that he would rather have God than anything else! ***“Thou art my portion, O LORD”*** This means that God was the **love** of his life, the **purpose** of his life, the **center**, and **focus** of his life, the **goal** of his life, and the **satisfaction** (pleasure and fulfillment) of his life. The Bible speaks of the ***“men of the world”*** who ***“have their portion in this life”*** [Psalm 17:14]. The ***Psalmist*** declared that the Lord was his ***“portion”*** [Psalm 16:5; 73:26; 142:5], implying that he was not a man of the world. In this stanza of the **119th Psalm** we see the characteristics of the one who can truly say ***“Thou art my portion, O LORD”***

**1. HE HAS RESOLVE CONCERNING THE WORD OF GOD:**

***“I have said*** (declared and determined) ***that I would keep thy words”*** [verse 57]. He was resolved to always pay **attention**, and to take **notice** of the Word of God, to be **mindful** of it, all for the purpose of being in **submission** and **obedience** to it. ONE CANNOT HAVE GOD AS THE FOCAL POINT OF THEIR LIFE, WITHOUT HAVING HIS WORD AS THE CORNERSTONE OF THEIR LIFE!

**2. HE PLEADED THE WORD OF GOD IN HIS PRAYERS:**

He desired wholeheartedly the **approval** and **blessings** of God-***“I intreated*** (begged) ***thy favour with my whole heart”*** [verse 58]. Knowing that there was nothing in him to merit or deserve the approval and blessings of God, he pleaded the promises of God’s Word-***“be merciful unto me according to thy word”*** [verse 58]. The Word of God makes a solid foundation for our pleas unto God.

**3. HE WAS WILLING TO EXAMINE HIS WAYS BY GOD’S WORD:**

***“I thought*** (reflected and pondered) ***on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies”*** [verse 59]. There was an **examination** of his ways (his **behavior**, his **practices**, and **characteristics**) using the standard of God’s Word, and then there was an **alteration** and **transformation**-***“and turned my feet unto*** (in the direction of) ***thy testimonies”***

**4. HE WAS EAGER IN PRACTICING THE WORD OF GOD:**

***“I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments”*** [verse 60]. HE IMMEDIATELY SET OUT TO DO WHAT GOD REQUIRED! This is part of his resolve in **verse 57**. He did not seek excuses or reasons not to obey, but he was **zealous** in carrying out the commands of God. When the Lord is the center, the focus, and the goal of life, ONE DOES NOT GET STUCK BETWEEN TWO WAYS OF LIVING!

**5. HE CALLED TO MIND THE WORD OF GOD:**

He mentions his **circumstances**-*"The band of the wicked* (the evil, sinful, corrupt, vile, depraved, and hateful had banded together in opposition against him), *have robbed me"* [verse 61]. He mentions his **recourse** under such circumstances-*"but I have not forgotten thy law"* He did not fail to remember, nor did he abandon God's Word. HIS CIRCUMSTANCES DID NOT DIVERT HIM FROM GOD'S WAYS REVEALED IN HIS WORD!

**6. HE WAS RESOLVED TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE WORD OF GOD:**

He possessed strong **confidence** in what the Word of God said, and as a result he had great **appreciation** for the Word, and was resolved to express such [verse 62].

**7. HE DESIRED THE COMPANY OF THOSE WHO MADE THE WORD OF GOD THEIR PRACTICE:**

*"I am a companion of all them that fear* (reverence and honor) *thee, and of them that keep thy precepts"* [verse 63]. Keeping the *"precepts"* (God's rule to regulate behavior and thought) is a direct result of **reverence** to the Lord. The *Psalmist* desired and longed for the **company** and **friendship** of such.

**8. HE DESIRES TO LEARN THE WORD OF GOD:**

Thankful for, and overwhelmed at the *"mercy"* of God, he desires to learn more of God's Word, which further reveals the *"mercy"* of God [verse 64]. Again, the *Psalmist* takes the place of the **student**, and recognizes God as the **teacher**, and the Word of God as the **lesson** being taught. HE DESIRES TO BE INDOCTRINATED IN THE WORD OF GOD!

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One's attitude and spirit toward the Word of God is a manifestation of their attitude and spirit toward God. GOD AND HIS WORD CANNOT BE SEPARATED! If God is the **love** and **purpose** of one's life, the central **focus** of one's life, the **goal**, the **pleasure** and **fulfillment** of one's life, such will be manifest in attitude and spirit toward the Word of God! IF GOD IS THE CENTER OF LIFE, THEN THE WORD OF GOD WILL HAVE A CENTRAL PLACE IN LIFE!

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