



The Wonder Of God's Word
Psalm 119

God's Word Comforts
Verses 73-80

This is the tenth stanza of the **119th Psalm**, and in this stanza the **Psalmist** once again expresses that he is experiencing affliction. He uses the word “**afflicted**” in **verse 75**, which speaks of being **troubled, burdened, and distressed**. To be “**afflicted**” is a state of **suffering, hurt, and sorrow**. The **Psalmist** alluded to his “**affliction**” in **verse 78** when he said “**the proud.....dealt perversely with me**” He is saying that “*the treatment he received from his enemies was deviant, with the intent to ruin him*” And this was “**without a cause**” [**verse 78**]. Such treatment was without any provocation from him. In addition to this, from his prayer in **verse 79**, it appears that he had been forsaken by the righteous, which was another aspect of his “**affliction**”

In this stanza the **Psalmist** finds a threefold comfort in his affliction. ❶ He found comfort in the fact that God created him with great care and for a definite purpose-**Thy hands have made** (a word that speaks of a distinctive purpose) **me, and fashioned** (a word that speaks of preparing for use) **me**” [**verse 73**]. He rejoiced in the fact of his own creation [**Psalm 139:13-17**]. ❷ He found comfort in the fact that God’s hand was in all his affliction-“**thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me**” [**verse 75**]. ❸ He sought comfort in the promises of God’s Word-“**Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according** (as stated and specified by) **to thy word unto thy servant**” [**verse 76**]. The **Psalmist** took great comfort in the reading of God’s “**merciful kindness**” in the Word of God. “**Comfort**” conveys the idea of **tranquility, contentment, support, reassurance, and cheer!** The **Holy Spirit** is “**the Comforter**” and He comforts by bringing to remembrance and speaking the Word of God [**John 14:26; 15:26**]. HE USES THE WORD OF GOD AS THE INSTRUMENT TO BRING COMFORT!

1. THERE IS COMFORT IN UNDERSTANDING AND LEARNING GOD’S WORD:

In the opening verse of the stanza, he prays “**give me understanding that** (in order to, for the purpose of), **I may learn thy commandments**” To understand is “*to comprehend, to grasp, to take in, to have insight, to appreciate, and believe*” THERE IS COMFORT IN UNDERSTANDING GOD’S WORD! “**Understanding**” is necessary to and a part of learning. To “**learn**” is “*to acquire knowledge, to absorb and digest, what is being taught, and to be familiar with*” THERE IS COMFORT IN LEARNING GOD’S WORD!

2. THERE IS COMFORT IN PLACING HOPE IN GOD'S WORD:

In **verse 74** the *Psalmist* stated "***I have hoped in thy word***" He had **assurance, confidence, conviction, faith,** and **trust** in the Word of God! His **expectations** were based upon the Word of God! THERE IS COMFORT IN SUCH HOPE! There was not only comfort for himself, but others were comforted by his hope in God's Word-"***They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because (on account of), I have hoped in thy word***"

3. THERE IS COMFORT WHEN THE WORD OF GOD IS AN OBJECT OF DELIGHT:

In **verse 77** the *Psalmist* stated "***thy law is my delight***" He found **pleasure** in, and **enjoyed** the Word of God! There is great comfort to the heart that truly delights in God's Word!

4. THERE IS COMFORT IN MEDITATING UPON GOD'S WORD:

In **verse 78** the *Psalmist* declared his determination and resolve-"***but I will meditate in thy precepts***" There is comfort in **thinking** and **reflecting** upon the Word of God! There is comfort in **mulling over** the Word of God! Many do not find comfort today, because they think and reflect upon the wrong things, but there is comfort to be had, in thinking upon the Word of God [**Philippians 4:8-9**].

5. THERE IS COMFORT WHEN THERE IS A SOUNDNESS IN GOD'S WORD:

This stanza closes with a prayer-"***Let my heart be sound in thy statutes***" [**verse 80**]. The word "**sound**" conveys the idea of **sincerity**. THERE IS COMFORT WHEN THERE IS A SINCERE REGARD FOR THE WORD OF GOD! The word "**sound**" also conveys the idea of being **healthy**. THERE IS COMFORT WHEN THE HEART IS MADE HEALTHY BY THE WORD OF GOD!

All children of God stand in need of **comfort**, and there is a **tranquility**, a **contentment**, an **assurance**, found in the Word of God! God's Word provides **comfort** by furnishing **support** (a foundation upon which to stand) and **cheer!** GOD'S WORD IS A WELL OF COMFORT FOR THE CHILD OF GOD!
