



The Wonder Of God's Word
Psalms 119

God's Word, A Source Of Strength
Verses 145-152

The background of this stanza, is that the enemies of both God and the **Psalmist**, with their malicious intent are drawing near; **“They draw nigh”** [verse 150]. He describes them by their character; they **“follow after mischief”** (they pursue evil) and **“they are far from thy law”** (they are disobedient). The **Psalmist** was very conscious of the fact that he had enemies, and very mindful of their activity and intent. He used the term **“mine enemies”** fifty one times in the **Psalms**, with **three** of them occurring in the **119th Psalm** [verses 98, 139, 157]. These enemies, intent on causing him harm are now drawing near, and this placed him in peril, and no doubt caused him some anxiety and dread.

Reading through this stanza, one can see that the **Psalmist** is in **dire straits**, and is feeling some **distress** of heart and mind. It is also evident, reading through this stanza, that God and His Word is the **life**, the **hope**, and the **confidence** of the **Psalmist**. The stanza begins with the **Psalmist** crying [verses 145, 146], but it ends with the **Psalmist** strengthened [verses 151, 152]. HE FOUND GOD AND HIS WORD TO BE A SOURCE OF STRENGTH!

1. HE FOUND STRENGTH IN PRAYER:

The enemy, **“they draw nigh”** [verse 150], and the **Psalmist** prayed with a spirit of **fergency** and with a sense of great need. His praying is referred to by the words **“I cried”** [verses 145, 146], **“and cried”** [verse 147]. Prayer is often described by crying [Psalm 34:6; 61:2], and signified the person praying to be in distress.

It was a **prayer from the heart**-**“I cried with my whole heart”** [verse 145]. This signifies that his praying was much more than mere words, that it was the expression of his innermost being, that it was **sincere** and **genuine**. **“I cried with my whole heart”** means that he prayed expending a great amount of energy, and that he prayed with a great amount of **intensity** and **passion**.

It was a **prayer directed unto God**-**“I cried unto thee”** [verse 146].

It was a **prayer to be heard**-**“hear me, O LORD”** [verse 145]. **“Hear my voice”** [verse 149]. HE TRULY DESIRED AND LOOKED FOR AN ANSWER TO HIS PRAYER!

It was a **prayer for deliverance**-**“I cried unto thee; save me”** [verse 146]. It was a **fervent, heartfelt** plea to be rescued and delivered from his enemies that were drawing near. It was a prayer that proceeded from a sense of **helplessness** and **need!**

It was a **prayer that was unceasing**-*"I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried"* [verse 147]. *"Mine eyes prevent the night watches"* [verse 148]. He would awake through the night and pray, he would rise before dawn and pray.

It was a **prayer dependent upon the character of God**-*"Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness"* [verse 149]. He claimed no personal merit or desert, BUT PLEADED THE CHARACTER OF GOD!

It was a **prayer for personal revival**-*"O LORD, quicken me"* [verse 149]. It was not only a prayer to be delivered and spared from his enemies, but a prayer for spiritual **stimulation**, a prayer for a spiritual **stirring**, a prayer to be spiritually **invigorated** and **aroused!**

2. HE FOUND STRENGTH IN GOD'S WORD:

The enemy, *"they draw nigh"* [verse 150], and the *Psalmist* not only prayed, but he found God's Word to be a source of **strength** and **solace!**

He **hoped** in God's Word-*"I hoped in thy word"* [verse 147]. Awaking through the night, and rising before the dawn, the *Psalmist* would center his thoughts upon the Word of God, AND THERE HE FOUND HOPE! He had **confidence** in the Word of God, and **assurance** and **expectation** flooded his soul.

He **meditated** in God's Word [verse 148]. He awaked through the night, and he **thought** upon the Word of God, he **reflected** upon the Word of God, and he **considered** and **pondered** the Word of God! THERE IS STRENGTH AND SOLACE IN MEDITATION UPON GOD'S WORD!

The enemy, *"they draw nigh"* [verse 150], and the *Psalmist* **prayed**, and **focused** upon the Word of God through the night, and into the day. THERE IS A BLESSED CONNECTION BETWEEN PRAYER AND THE WORD OF GOD! The result of the *Psalmist* **praying** and being **focused** upon the Word of God was that **he felt the nearness of God**-*"Thou art near, O LORD"* [verse 151], and **he had greater conviction concerning the truth of God's Word**-*"all thy commandments are truth"* [verse 151], and **he had greater conviction concerning the stability of God's Word** [verse 152]. THERE IS STRENGTH AND SOLACE IN PRAYER AND THE WORD OF GOD!
