



Loving God and His Word

By Jeff Bedwell on May 13, 2024

TODAY'S READING: Psalm 119:73-104

Martin Luther once wrote of God's Word, "The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me. The Bible is not antique or modern. It is eternal." This section of Psalm 119 reminds us of the power of God's Word.

God's Word comforts us in our affliction (vv. 73-80). Whatever the source of the affliction, God knows and is in control. In His Word we are reminded of His unfailing love (vs. 76) and His compassion and mercy (vs. 77).

God's Word strengthens us in persecution (vv. 81-88). A missionary to Korea, Harold Vokel, recounting his work among prisoners of war during the conflict there, said he saw thousands of these young men come to Christ. As they were discipled in the internment camps, one book of the Bible drew them without fail. It was the Book of Revelation, which some memorized in its entirety. Amid war and loss, its pages gave them comfort and hope. The final victory belonged to the Lamb who became a Lion. As these prisoners fainted for God's salvation, they continued to hope in His Word (vs. 81).

God's Word is eternal (vv. 89-96). The Bible is not the work of mere mortals but is God's enduring Word and is a faithful and true anchor for our lives. Philosophies and fads may come and go, but God's Word will forever be true! "*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever*" (Isaiah 40:8, ESV).

God's Word gives us wisdom (vv. 97-104). God's Word is the owner's manual for life teaching us about reality. God's Word gives us wisdom to know how to live in relationship with God, others, and the world around us.

No wonder the Psalmist exclaims, "*Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day*" (Psalm 119:97, ESV).

Let's ask God to help us to love Him and His Word more and more. Ask God to help you to read, meditate, and apply God's powerful Word in your life.

PRAYER: Father, as we continue to read and reflect upon this psalm, create in us a renewed hunger and delight in You and Your Word. We thank You for Your written Word and the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ!

TOMORROW'S READING: Psalm 119:105-144

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