



Light for My Path

By Jeff Bedwell on May 14, 2024

TODAY'S READING: Psalm 119:105-144

Verse 105 may be one of the best-known verses in this entire Psalm: “*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*” (Psalm 119:105, ESV). God’s Word directs us toward life as God intended it to be. God’s Word protects us from false steps that can bring us to harm or even ruin in our lives and the lives of others.

The imagery behind this verse is helpful. The lamp gives enough light to see one step ahead, indicating the traveler’s constant need of God’s Word. The great Christian educator, Henrietta Mears, cited this verse and illustrated it from her experience at Forest Home, the camp that she founded in the San Bernardino Mountains in Southern California. There in the woods at night it is difficult to see anything. Even if we have a flashlight, we may not see the whole trail, but we see where we are to place our next step. Likewise, God’s Word lights our path as we walk through the darkness of this world one step at a time. God’s Word may not show us everything we would like to know, but it shows us enough to take the next step in obedience to God, trusting in His wisdom, love, and power.

We must make the continual decision to not only have our hearts and minds illuminated by God’s Word, but to obey it. The very next verse says, “*I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules*” (Psalm 119:106, ESV).

Becky Pippert wrote, “Whatever controls us is our lord. The person who seeks power is controlled by power. The person who seeks acceptance is controlled by acceptance. We do not control ourselves. We are controlled by the lord of our lives.” In the end we will either be controlled by obedience to God’s will and way, communicated to us through His Word, or we will be controlled by some combination of the world, the flesh, and the devil. As the old preachers used to say, “This book will keep you from sin or sin will keep you from this book!”

Let us ask God to illuminate our hearts and minds through His Word. Let us recommit ourselves to spending time in His Word daily and adjusting our lives to His wisdom and ways through trusting obedience step by step.

PRAYER: Lord, thank You for the gift of Your Word that is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Help me to cherish it, immerse myself in it, and joyfully follow You in obedience to Your Holy Word.

TOMORROW'S READING: Psalm 119:145-176

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