



Studies in Psalms by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalm 119 Aleph

2/28/13

It is fitting that the greatest tribute to the Word of God is IN the Word of God, itself, and is in the longest chapter of the Word of God! This Psalm has no author's name, historical incident, or other distraction from its theme. It is divided into 22 sections (one for every letter in the Hebrew alphabet), each consisting of 8 lines, each line beginning with the alphabet letter of that section (*aleph* is the first letter of each line under the *aleph* section, for instance). The chapter uses some eight to ten different words to describe the Word of God, each bringing something extra to the total picture of the Word of Truth. In order to savor the depth and richness of teaching in this Psalm, we will examine each portion as if it were its own chapter.



***Aleph* Psalm 119:1-8: Walking "In The Way"**

Verses 1-3: The "undefiled" are "in the way" described, because they "walk in the law of the LORD." Sin is a "transgression" of (crossing over) God's Law ([Hebrews 2:2-3](#)), obedience is respecting and staying within that Law. "**Law**" is from a word meaning to "direct, guide, teach," God's Law led to Jesus Christ ([Galatians 3:19-24](#)). This "walk" must be "with the whole heart," and will help one "do no iniquity."

Verses 4-6: God has "commanded" that we should "keep His **precepts** diligently," that is, apply ourselves to what His instructions say. "**Statutes**" are the marked-out lines that show the course of conduct God wants us to follow. If "my ways were directed" by God's Law, then "I would not be ashamed" to read His ways. Many people quit their Bible study, it seems, because they find things God expects of them and they don't want to do them!

Verses 7-8: God has given us His "righteous **judgments**," or decisions that are right, but the choice to follow them is left up to the individual. Praise to God flows from a heart full of: His Word, submission, appreciation, association with God. When we study and see what God expects, we immediately realize we need His help to accomplish it.

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*All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.*