

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

Psalm 119:89-96 *Lamed*

3/15/13

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.



Psalm 119:89-96 *Lamed*

God's Established Word Works!

Verses 89-91 remind us to look around at God's Word still at working successfully; Verses 92-96 show how complete life is when based upon God's Word.

Verses 89-91: (Verse 89) Halfway through this chapter emphasizing the importance of God's Word to deal with life, we might ask: "How certain is this Word, itself?" God's Word is "settled in heaven," which means, nothing on earth can, has, or ever will, change it. In our world of public opinion polls, political winds, ignored constitutions, blurred or absent morals, and compromised principles, it is comforting to know God's Word stays the same! Solomon said: "I know that whatever God does, It shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, And nothing taken from it. God does *it*, that men should fear before Him" ([Ecclesiastes 3:14](#)).

Jesus practically quoted this verse in [Matthew 24:35](#), and also said:

- not "one jot or one tittle" ([Matthew 5:18](#)) of what God promises to do would change before its fulfillment;
- the Apostles of Christ (not Peter only!) were told whatever they bound on earth was already bound in heaven ([Matthew 16:19](#));



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- Peter taught obedience to “the word of God which lives and abides forever” ([1 Peter 1:22-25](#)); and
- John said, “he who does the will of God abides forever” ([1 John 2:17](#)).

God’s Word is NOT settled on earth: by council votes, decrees, traditions, human creeds, smoke, ignorance, or gross immorality!

(Verse 90) This is why God’s “faithfulness” (abiding characteristic) “endures to all generations.” God’s dealings with mankind is written in the Bible for all to examine. It is “the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them” ([Acts 14:15](#)), who rules in men’s “nations” ([Acts 14:16](#)), but established the rules of Earth since the creation ([Acts 14:17](#); [Genesis 1](#)), which (**verse 91**) “continue this day according to” God’s “ordinances” (otherwise translated as “statutes”). Since the Creation, God’s Rules rule; in mankind’s history, God’s Rules rule; in the present day, God’s Rules rule.

Verses 92-96: **(Verse 92)** Through the tossing sea of “affliction” God’s “law” (words showing the straight path) prevents “perishing.” **(Verse 93)** Without God’s “precepts” (words calling attention to the right way) one would not have “live.” **(Verse 94)** Without God’s “precepts,” to whom would we know to flee for refuge? “Then Jesus said to the twelve, ‘Do you also want to go away?’ But Simon Peter answered Him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life’” ([John 6:67-68](#)). Belonging to God by obeying the Gospel ([Mark 16:15-16](#)) permits the Christian, with full confidence, to call: “Save me.”

(Verse 95) God’s “testimonies” (words demonstrating His character) allow a saint (a.k.a. Christian) to look past the “wicked” who lie in “wait” to destroy.

(Verse 96) We see the frailty of human “perfections,” but must also notice God’s “commandment is exceedingly broad” (His orders to be followed extend over anything established by people). In other words, “the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses” ([Daniel 4:25](#)).

Thought: People have butchered the Bible, misrepresented its truth, ignored its teaching, altered its doctrine, refused its improvements, questioned its truthfulness, doubted its heavenly origin – BUT NO ONE HAS EVER PROVEN THAT IT IS NOT RIGHT, NOR THAT IT HAS NOT COME FROM GOD! If not – why not?

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