## **The Fellowship Room**

## **Studies in Psalms** by <u>John T Polk II</u> For The Fellowship Room

Psalm 119:105-112 Nun

3/19/12

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 119:105-112 Nun

The Light In The Tunnel

Verse 105 shows what God's Word provides; Verses 106-112 show how God's Word helps.

**Verse 105:** God's "word" (message of instruction) provides "a lamp" for "my feet" (which represents specific action). Lamps usually provide illumination in dark situations. "A light" (usually associated with day) to "my path" (which represents constant course of conduct).

**Verses 106-112:** GOD'S WORD HELPS US: (**Verse 106**) KEEP OUR PROMISES. With the respect as in a court of law, God's "righteous judgments" (always right decisions) prevail, and people must swear and confirm to keep them. "For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute" (**Hebrews 6:16**), but God accepts a person's oath seriously: "Do not be rash with your mouth, And let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God *is* in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few" (**Ecclesiastes 5:2**).

(**Verse 107**) RENEW EFFORTS IN AFFLICTION. When "affliction" (stress, depression, strife, conflict, pain) grows in effect to "very much," we need to be "revived" (by reconsidering our responsibility before God).

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(**Verse 108**) GIVE FERVENT WORSHIP. "Freewill offerings of my mouth" are our prayers, songs, and teaching centered upon God and His Will for us. If worship is begrudging, forced, intimidated, or coerced, it is NOT "freewill." "Therefore by Him [Jesus] let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" (Hebrews 13:15-16).

(**Verse 109**) MAKE GOD'S WILL MY WILL. No plainer statement is ever made about the freewill nature of humans than: "My life is continually in my hand." That means no one makes us do anything we do not choose to do, for our decisions come from within our hearts (**Proverbs 4:3**; Matthew 5:8; Mark 7:20-23). Since God's "law" (words showing the straight path) must always govern our way, we must never "forget" it.

(**Verse 110**) STAY ON COURSE. The "wicked" are all who "have laid a snare for me," but the faithful are those who "have not strayed from" God's "precepts" (words highlighting what is pure). "Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught" (Proverbs 3:25-26).

(**Verse 111**) ENJOY GOD'S CHARACTER. "Testimonies" about God are His dealings with mankind from His Word, and the promise of Heaven is "a heritage forever." In Christ, we are "giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light" (Ephesians 1:12). We are "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2).

(**Verse 112**) KEEP LOOKING UP. An "incline" is designed to go upward, so God's "statutes" (words marking out our limits) lift us heavenward if we "perform" them. "Forever, to the very end" shows we should leave this life actively serving God. Eternity is determined, not by the height of the pile of good works or absolute purity we have attained, but the direction we are going when we die! "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me" (Philippians 3:12).