

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

Psalm 119:41-48 Waw

3/7/13

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.



Waw Psalm 119:41-48

Living A Life "Prepared"

Verses 41-44 speak of a person's covenant with God;
Verses 45-48 list blessings and responsibilities that accompany God's salvation.

Verses 41-44: (**Verse 41**) God gives "mercies" (plural, because we always need them) which are the only means for which we should receive "salvation." Jacob spoke to God for all of us when he said: "I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant" ([Genesis 32:10](#)). Paul tells Christians, it is "by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God" ([Romans 12:1](#)). These "mercies" are revealed through His "word," even today ([Titus 3:1-8](#)).

(**Verse 42**) "So" (in this way) "shall I have an answer" (can make response, give a reason) to enemies "who reproaches," whose verbal attacks cannot weaken my "trust in Your word" (also known as "faith," [Romans 10:17](#)).

(**Verse 43**) As long as "the word of truth" (Scriptural reply, as in [1 Peter 3:15](#)) comes from our mouths, we have "hope" based upon God's "ordinances" (limits in place for our protection from others).

(**Verse 44**) "So" (in this manner) "shall I keep" (obey) God's "law" (guide, direction), "forever and ever" (from now on).

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



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Verses 45-48: (Verse 45) To have freedom to “walk at liberty” one must stay within God’s “precepts” (instructions regarding conduct). The “unfasten your seatbelt” sign in an airplane does not free one to walk outside the airplane! “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage” (**Galatians 5:1**).

(Verse 46) The boldness to “speak” comes from confidence in God’s “testimonies” (bearing witness), whether the audience consists of family, friends, or government representatives!

(Verse 47) Personal “delight” (satisfaction) comes from a heart of “love” (caring what’s best) for God’s “commandments” (orders to obey). There is no “ego-stroking” or build-up, without loving and keeping God’s commandments. “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome” (**1 John 5:3**).

(Verse 48) Waving hands in the air is not what is referred to here, but rather obeying God by making our hands meet up with what God commands, thus to “lift up to Your commandments.” Love of God produces obedience because we “meditate” (focus thoughts) on God’s “statutes” (lines marking out our field of play).

Thought: The more we fill our hearts with God’s Bible, the more prepared we are for whatever we must do, whatever reproach others may say, and where we intend to be in eternity! Jesus said, “blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!” (**Luke 11:28**)

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