

Beloved sisters and Brethren

Psalm119v97 *O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.*

An introduction of the Zondervan King James Study Bible of which there were many editors describes this Psalms as a devotional on the word of God. The author of the Psalm it says was an Israelite of exemplary piety (probably postexilic) who (1) was passionately devoted to the word of God as the Word of Life (2) humbly acknowledged , nevertheless the errant ways of his heart and life (3) knew the pain-but also the fruits of God's corrective discipline and (4)had suffered much at the hands of those who arrogantly disregarded God's word and made him the target of their hostility, ridicule and slander. The author had a theme that filled his soul, that ranged the height depth breadth of a person's walk with God. Nothing less than the full power of language would suffice and of that the alphabet was the most apt symbol.

I thought these few words were helpful in a way but we know that 2Timothy 3:16 -17 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

This Psalm was befitting for the Lord Jesus as to no other and whilst we may think of it applying to say King David there was no one for whom it was more apt in His days on earth

But also to observe is that every one of the one hundred and seventy-six verses in this Psalm relates to God's commandments be they called precepts, testimonies, truth, law, word, judgments, hope, statutes.

Now in the verse before us and others we are drawn straightaway to God's Law and in thinking of this we realise that His Law pervades everything. His Law comes to us by His Word

Thus it is written:

Psalms 1:1 – 6: Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

The Creation of the World

Genesis 1:1-3: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

From the very beginning of the earth we see that God commanded and it was done. Thus all that exists that we see and know God commanded.

This is confirmed by the apostle John and alludes to Jesus the Son of God:

The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-5: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light

of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

John Baptist was sent as a witness John 1:11-14 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

And in the Psalm as we study we see the mind of Jesus, the Son of God:

Psalms 40:6-8 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

The Law of the Lord Is Perfect

Psa 19:1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

From these few quotations we see the greatness of the word-it is a power, The Power of God. The Almighty Creator and it is this Word that has been entrusted to His servants as it was to Moses through whom the details of the creation were made known to His people. For those who are given to understand it a great privilege. With privilege comes responsibility.

And so we have His Word in all its clarity and simplicity, compared with the erroneous involved scientific concepts of man, as the apostle Paul explained Act 17:28 *For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.*

From The Word we can understand the height, depth and breadth of the purpose of God .Jesus as recounted by Luke describes the responsibility that knowledge brings and we know that nothing is hidden from God's eyes. Hebrews 12:28 *Wherefore we receiving a*

kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

And so we see Jesus the Son of God born of a virgin growing in nurture and stature so that even as a child of twelve years old he was reasoning with the wise men and doctors. His parents had not noticed that he was not with them and turned back to find him and when they complained Luke_2:49 *And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?*

When he was of age he went to be baptised of John Matthew 3:13 - 17: *Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

Matthew 4:1-3 *Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.*

Such a long time without food could cause delirium and so the natural workings of His mind tried to take over but Jesus resisted and called on the Word of God to stamp out those evil thoughts

Matthew 4:4 -6: *But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou*

be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Again we see his human nature trying to take over in his weakened state but the Word prevailed within Him

Matthew 4:7-11 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

And so we see Jesus triumphing over the temptations of the flesh and all by His recalling The Word. The promise to us is as Paul said 1 Corinthians 10:13 *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it*

Jesus' escape was the Word of God as was promised in the very beginning:

Gen 3:14-15: And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Thus the very first Psalm speaks of the Godly man who is shown in contrast with the ungodly

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

We see there is no grey just as was said in the beginning:

Genesis 1:1-4 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

And John 1:1-5: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

And so we know that as Christ is one so all who are in Him are one with Him –one mind, one heart, one purpose and it is the love of His

word and attention to it that helps make us one with God, His Son and with one another.

How precious is His Word that is able to make us wise for salvation and make us suitable companions for Christ in the multitudinous bride

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Brother Ken with love to all of like mind