

PSALM 119

(AN EXPRESSIVE TRANSLITERATION)

Aleph

Those blessed ones whose ways, with blamelessness,
who walk according to the LORD, his law.
His statutes kept, those, filled with blessedness,
sought him with all their heart, much blessings saw.

They do no wrong but follow all his ways.
His precepts set, are all to be obeyed.
Oh, that my ways were steadfast all my days.
That your decrees I'd never disobeyed.

Then never would I be one put to shame.
When I consider all of your commands,
with upright heart, forever praise your name.
Your yoke is easy: righteous laws' demands.

Obeying your decrees, forsake me not.
Your faithfulness, my name, you'll never blot.

Beth

How can I in my youth keep purity?
According to your word, upon my way.
My heart seeks you in its entirety.
From your commands, please do not let me stray.

Your word inside my heart, I've kept it hid.
That I might not against you ever sin.
Praise be to you, what is it that you bid?
Decrees you teach me; hold them deep within.

My lips, proceeding from your mouth, the laws,
recounting. I rejoice in foll'wing them.
Upon your precepts and your ways, I pause.
Your laws bring joy like riches, precious gems.

Delight myself, your merciful decrees.
In prayer, your word attending on my knees.

Gimel

I am your servant, please be good to me.
My lifetime, short, that I, your word, obey.
My eyes I ask you open so I see
the things most wonderful that your laws say.

A stranger here on earth, a constant gloom.
Please never hide what you command from me.
With constant longing is my soul consumed,
your laws for which it burns eternally.

The arrogant -- rebuked, they are accursed.
Those ones who stray in vain from your commands.
Protect me from their scorn, contempt, and worse.
Your statutes kept; temptation, I withstand.

Though rulers sit and constant slander me.
Each day and night, I think on your decrees.
I meditate, your statutes -- my delight.
My counselors, convey me to your heights!

Daleth

It's where I am, laid low, down in the earth.
Accounting all my ways, you answered me;
preserve my life according to your word.
I ask you teach me all of your decrees.

Upon your precepts will I meditate.
I contemplate to understand your deeds.
With sorrow, downwards, with my soul as weight.
According to your word, please strengthen me.

From ways deceitful, pray that you keep me.
Be gracious to me, all your laws, please teach.
The way of faithfulness to what I cleave.
Your statutes what I cling to with my reach.

My heart, LORD, I have set on all your laws.
Your statutes, LORD, those which I hold to, fast.
No shame, the path of your commands will cause.
You broadened understanding, mine, at last.

He

LORD, teach me now the way of your decrees,
that I may follow it until the end.
Give understanding to me so I keep
your law; with all my heart, will I depend.

Obedience, the path that you command,
direct me there, for there I find delight.
Your statutes, LORD, my heart must understand.
No selfish gain on which it may alight.

From worthless things, my eyes, please turn away.
Preserve my life according to your word.
Fulfill the promise you, your servant, made
so you, before my enemies, are feared.

Please take away disgracefulness I dread
because your laws are good, those ones you write.
Your precepts are my food, my living bread.
Within your righteousness, preserve my life.

Waw

Come unto me, your love, unfailingly.
Salvation, how you promised, 'ccordingly.
Then I can answer those who're taunting me
in your word will I trust eternally.

Not from my mouth, the word of truth, remove.
The total of my hope, upon your laws,
is where I've fixed; obedience I prove,
forever, twice, in freedom where I walk.

Your precepts sought, your statutes will I tell
to kings and never be ashamed. For me:
delight in all of your commands; as well,
I love them; meditate on your decrees.

Zayin

The word you gave your servant, don't forget.
Remember for your words all, me, inspired.
I have through suffering, this comfort yet:
the promises you made preserve my life.

The arrogant mock me unmercifully
but never do I turn; your law, I live.
Your ancient laws, remembered faithfully.
Not only that, the comfort that they give.

What grips me, indignation, at their ways.
The wicked, long forsaking your decrees.
Your laws on which my songs have all been based
wherever, in the night, my head to sleep.

Your name, LORD, I remembered; all my days:
my practice this -- your precepts I obey.

Heth

You are my portion, LORD, your words, obey.
with all my heart is how I sought your face.
You promised me, I beg of you, your grace.
I turned my steps, I thought of all my ways.
Unto your statutes, hasten, not delay.
Commandments that you give I will obey.

The wicked bind me up with tying ropes,
but nonetheless, I won't forget your law.
At midnight, rise to give you thanks: my hope:
the gifts you give, your righteous laws. To all

who follow, fear you, I, always, a friend.
Your precepts set. The earth and all the seas
are filled up with your love, O LORD, no end.
I pray that you please teach me your decrees.

Teth

Unto your servant, LORD, I pray do good
according to your word. I pray you teach
me knowledge and good judgment for I would
trust all commands of yours. Outside your reach,

afflicted and astray, not where I should.
But now, I have obedience -- your word.
Your goodness, too, and what you do is good.
I pray that your decrees, to me, made sure.

The arrogant have smeared me with their lies.
With all my heart, your precepts have I kept.
Their callous hearts, unfeeling, you despise.
But with delight, your law, for which I wept.

Affliction as a blessed state, I see
so when I suffer, your decrees, your love.
The law you utter, precious, more to me
than pieces, gold and silver, thousands of.

Yodh

Your hands have formed me, made me what I am.
Please, understanding, give, for your commands.
May those who fear you, in their hearts, be glad
when they see me. They know the hope I have
in your word, LORD, your laws and righteousness.
That you afflicted me in faithfulness.
May your unfailing love, my comfort, be.
The promise to your servant, I believe.
Bring your compassion so that I may live.
For my delight alone, the law you give.
The arrogant, that they are put to shame
for wronging me unjustly, without blame.
But on your precepts I will meditate.
May those who fear you, to my way, rotate.
Those who your statutes, understanding, have
be filled with righteousness, that which they crave.

May I wholeheartedly to your decrees
adhering. Put to shame, I'll never be.

Kaph

For your salvation, fainting, is my soul,
with longing, but your word, my hope, alone.
My failing eyes, your promise, what I seek,
Call out to God: "When will you comfort me?!"
Though I am like a wineskin in the smoke,
no, your decrees I won't treat like a joke.
How long must I, your servant, on you wait??
When will you, persecutors, for their hate
dispense your punishment. The arrogant

dig pits to trap me in their violence.
Contrary to your law is how they act.
But with your servant, an eternal pact.
All your commands to me are full of truth.
Pray help me, without cause they persecute.
They almost wiped me clean from off the earth.
But no forsaking, all your precepts sure.
In your unfailing love preserve my life.
That I obey the statutes of your mouth.

Lamedh

Eternal is your word, LORD, how it stands?
With firmness in the heavens, you remand.
Your faithfulness, to generations, sure,
it will continue; and the earth endures.
What you established, even to this day,
your laws enduring all things, you, obey.
If your law, that, what wasn't my delight,
in my affliction, perish: that my plight.
Your precepts, no forgetting all my days.
For by them you're preserving all my ways.
Because I'm yours, I pray that you save me.
Your precepts always, those for which I seek.
The wicked waiting, my destruction planned.
Your statutes pondered; them, I understand
To all perfection is a limit set,
but your commands, their boundaries, never met.

Mem

I love your law, I meditate,
upon it, will I focus all my days.
They're always, your commandments true, with me.
They make me wiser than my enemies.
More insight than my teachers I possess.
Upon your statutes gladly will obsess!
More understanding than the elders, craved
because your precepts always I obeyed.
From every evil path I've kept my feet,
so that your word is something I can keep.
Your laws are things from which I don't depart.
For you have taught me deep within my heart.
The sweetness of your words unto my taste.
As honey, all consuming, none to waste!
Obedience, my understanding gained.
The wrong paths, every one of which I hate.

Nun

Your word unto my feet provides a light.
As from a lamp illumined in the night.
An oath I took and later was confirmed.
That from your righteous laws will never turn.
I've suffered much, LORD, please preserve my life.
According to your word and not my strife.
Accept, LORD, all my praise that's from my jaws.
It's willing, and please teach me all your laws.
Though, constantly, my life, I take in
my own hands, but I'm remembering
your law. The wicked set a snare for me,
but from your precepts, never moved, my feet.

Your statutes are my heritage, always.
My joyful heart will keep them all my days.

Samekh

The double-minded people whom I hate.
Your law alone is what my heart relates.
My refuge and my shield is what you are.
The hope I have, I placed all in your word.
Away from me, you evildoing men!
That I will keep them, all of God's commands!
Sustain me, God, your promise, 'ccordingly,
My life, and all my hopes, undyingly.
Uphold me, and deliverance I have.
For your decrees are always what I crave.
Rejecting all who stray from your decrees.
To nothing, minds deluded and diseased.
The wicked of the earth, like dross, discard;
Your statutes to my heart and mind will guard.
I'm trembling in my flesh in fear of you.
The awe I have, your laws, my life renewed.

Ayin

What I have done is righteous, also, just.
Please leave me not to my oppressors' lusts.
Well-being mine, your servant's, please ensure.
The arrogant, please, their oppressions, cure!
For your salvation, looking, my eyes fail.
Your righteous promises, their heights, I scale.
With me your servant, how it is you deal
according to your love -- teach your decrees.
I am your servant; please, discernment, give,

That with your statutes will I always live.
Now is the time for you to act, O LORD.
Your law is broken, too, are all your words.
Because of your commands, I love them more
than gold, its purity, the value stored.
Because your precepts I consider right,
each other path I hate: the wicked's plight.

Pe

Your statutes wonderful, thus, I obey.
Your words' unfolding, light unto my way.
The simple, through them, understanding, gain.
My panting mouth, I never want in vain.
For your commandments, longing that I have.
Turn unto me; to me, your mercy gave,
you always do to ones who love your name.
According to your word, my footsteps, tamed.
No letting sin have power over me,
Oppressed by fellow humans, please redeem!
So that your precepts I can then obey.
Please, on your servant, shine your blessed face.
Please teach me your decrees, tears from my eyes
are flowing for your laws are so despised.

Tsadhe

LORD, you are righteous, all your laws are right.
Are righteous statutes, what in stone you write.
Trustworthy, fully. Worn from all my zeal,
my enemies ignore your words, revealed.
Are tested thoroughly, your promises,
and they are what your servant truly loves.

Though I am lowly, also am despised,
your precepts always in my mind appraised.
Your righteousness as everlasting, is;
Your law is true, but trouble and distress
have come upon me, but, what's my delight?
Your righteous statutes always wisdom give.
The understanding gained so I can live.

Qoph

I call with all my heart, please answer me.
Obedience to all of your decrees.
I call to you, and ask that you would save
me. Statutes kept, they all are what I crave.
Before the dawn, I rise; for help, I cry.
Upon your word, I've put my hope. My eyes
stay open through the watches of the night.
Your promises, I meditate; they're right!
My voice, I ask you hear, accordingly,
unto your love; my life, preserve to me
according to your laws. Those who devise
their wicked schemes, their place appraised
as near to me, but from your law are far.
Yet you are near, LORD. Guiding stars
are your commands to me, forever true.
Your statutes for eternity, I always knew.

Resh

Look on my suffering, deliver me.
Your law, I've not forgotten. Please redeem
me and defend my righteous cause. Preserve
my life according to your promises.

Salvation far away from wicked men.
They seek them not, your laws, don't comprehend.
LORD, your compassion, great, my life preserve
According to your laws. I don't deserve
their persecution, by my many foes.
Your statutes have not turned, they're all I know.
Upon the faithless, looking, they I loathe.
They disobey your laws, your love, them both.
Preserve my life, your precepts what I love.
Your lovingkindness, LORD, from up above.
Your words are true, eternal are your laws.
Are righteous, everlasting, filled with awe.

Sin and Shin

The rulers persecute me without cause.
But at your word, my trembling heart takes pause.
Rejoicing in your promises like one
who finds great spoil. All falsehood do I shun,
I hate, but loving all your righteous laws.
I praise you seven times each day, your laws
are righteous. For those ones who love your law:
great peace they have, and nothing makes them fall.
For your salvation, LORD, I always wait.
I follow your commands; your laws, obey.
I love them greatly, precepts, statutes too,
obeying, all my ways are known to you.

Taw

I pray my cry will come before you LORD.
That understanding, give me for your word.
My supplication comes before your face.

According to your promises, please save.
With praise, my lips o'erflow; decrees, you teach.
I pray that all your words, my tongue will preach.
For your commands are filled with righteousness.
Your hands prepared to give me your assist.
Your precepts are those righteous ones I chose.
For your salvation, LORD, is what I know,
I long for, and your law gives me delight.
Let me live more and I will praise your might.
And that your laws would always me sustain.
The praise I give, I never will refrain.
Like a lost sheep, away from you I strayed.
Please seek your servant; all your laws, obeyed.

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