

# Psalm 119

- It is an acrostic (alphabetical) Psalm (9,10,25,34,37,111,112,145 are, also)
- It contains 176 verses—8 verses for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- It uses 8 different expressions to describe God's Word: law, testimonies, precepts, statutes, commandments, judgments, and two forms of "word"
- We don't know exactly who wrote it, or exactly what the circumstances around its writing were

- We do know that its subject is the Word of God
- And we do know that the author loved it: 14; 16; 20; 24; 31; 47; 48; 54; 70; 77; 92; 97; 99; 99; 103; 111; 113; 119; 127; 129; 131; 140; 143; 159; 162; 167; 174
- But we should not think that the author thought, that he was perfect in this.  
(We'll come back to this)

- In this Psalm, we find the author pondering the Word of God (and pondering himself)
- We find the author praising the Word of God
- And we find the author praying about the Word of God

## Psalm 119.1-8

- Verses 1-3 introduce us to the entire Psalm.
- Using the 3<sup>rd</sup> person, the author singles out the blessedness of those who heed God's Word
- 119.1: Blessed are the undefiled—the upright. The word is translated “sound” in verse 80

- 119.3: They do no iniquity—no evil: they walk in His ways
- Who does this? 119.2. Those who keep His testimonies—seek Him with their whole heart.
- 119.2 employs Hebrew parallelism: line “a” and line “b” are stating the same premise

- Verses 4-7 are the authors personal reflection upon what he had written in verses 1-2
- 119.4: we are commanded to keep Thy precepts diligently.
- 119.5: O that I was firm in this!
- Directed means: firm (Joshua 3.17), established (Genesis 41.32)
- 119.6: I won't be ashamed, when I regard all You have said

- 119.7: my praise will be “right on” when I have learned Your righteous judgments.
- God’s Word will change his heart
- Verse 8 is an expression of resolve—and a prayer
- “I will keep Thy statutes”
- “Please don’t forsake me”