

# God's word

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Every day we are bombarded with information. We read news headlines, scroll social media, and research topics for school or for our own personal interest. Quite frequently this information is changing, conflicting, or confusing. This is why we take the time to cross-reference and check multiple sources to confirm the accuracy of what we are reading. Not so with God's word. God's word is reliable and steadfast. "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven" (Ps. 119:89). God's word, from Adam to the apostles, has never changed over the years. "Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever" (v. 160). God's word is also *perspicuous*. It is not hard to figure out and piece together what God means.

Since God's word is so trustworthy, we can rely on it to illuminate our path. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Ps. 119:105). On life's pathway, there are many snares the

wicked have laid for us as well as our own faults and sins that cause us to stumble. God's word exposes these snares and shows us where to walk so we don't fall into temptation. We must pray, "Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me" (v. 133).

In addition to lighting our pathway, God's word strengthens us: "Strengthen thou me according to thy word" (Ps. 119:28). In this life we have battles to fight against our sinful flesh, Satan, and the world. We often get weary, and we need God's word to invigorate and refresh us in the battle. It is so important that we frequently turn to God's word for refreshment. Just as one meal or glass of water will not sustain us for the entirety of a week, infrequent eating and drinking from God's word will leave us spiritually dehydrated and weak. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matt. 5:6).

God's word also gives us hope and comfort in affliction: "Remember

the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope. This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me" (Ps. 119:49–50). Not only do we need hope, but we also need comfort: "Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?" (v. 82). Often it looks like we are fighting a losing battle. It looks like the enemy is undefeatable. Our sins keep plaguing us, we keep falling into temptation, and the world continues to grow hostile to Christians. Why should we keep fighting? God's word comforts our troubled hearts and gives us hope. It tells us the victory is already won. Jesus crushed the head of the serpent, and he is coming again in judgment at the end of the world to punish the wicked.

We are to respond to God's word in three ways. First, we are to respond with *awe*. "But my heart standeth in awe of thy word" (Ps. 119:161). God's word is powerful: it can give life, and it is able to destroy. Thus we may not have a

flippant or casual attitude towards God's word. It deserves our full admiration, devotion, and worship.

Second, we respond with *obedience*. "But now have I kept thy word" (Ps. 119:67). We must obey God's word and heed its instruction. We may not be indifferent to it or view it as optional. God's word is truth and all his commands to us are a necessary part of the Christian life.

Third, we respond by *hiding* God's word in our hearts (Ps. 119:11). We must view God's word as an invaluable treasure to be hid in our hearts where it can't be forgotten or taken away. Perhaps our Bibles will be taken away someday, but if God's word is hidden in our hearts, it is safe. "Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart" (Prov. 7:3).

| Date            | Read                        | Study   | Psalter |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|---------|
| <b>April 8</b>  | Ps. 119:1–8                 | What are five characteristics of those who are called blessed?  | 1       |
| <b>April 9</b>  | Ps. 119:9–16<br>1 Pet. 1:22 | What does “taking heed thereto according to thy word” look like (Ps. 119:9)?  | 322     |
| <b>April 10</b> | Ps. 119:17–24               | How is it possible to keep God’s word?  | 323     |
| <b>April 11</b> | Ps. 119:25–32               | What uplifts your burdened soul?  | 324     |
| <b>April 12</b> | Ps. 119:33–40               | How does God make us walk in his ways?  | 325     |
| <b>April 13</b> | Ps. 119:41–48               | How does God’s word benefit us?   | 326     |
| <b>April 14</b> | Ps. 119:49–56               | How have you comforted yourself with God’s word when horror begins to take hold because of the wicked?                              | 327     |
| <b>April 15</b> | Ps. 119:57–64               | What should follow self-examination?  | 328     |
| <b>April 16</b> | Ps. 119:65–72               | How is affliction for our profit?   | 329     |
| <b>April 17</b> | Ps. 119:73–80               | How is it “faithfulness” when God afflicts us (v. 75)?  | 330     |
| <b>April 18</b> | Ps. 119:81–88               | What sustains us amid the relentless attacks of our enemies?  | 331     |
| <b>April 19</b> | Ps. 119:89–96               | How does the permanence of God’s word comfort you?  | 332     |
| <b>April 20</b> | Ps. 119:97–104              | Why is meditating on God’s word important for our daily Christian walk?   | 333     |
| <b>April 21</b> | Ps. 119:105–112             | According to verse 105, how does God’s word light our path and keep us from falling into the snares of the wicked?                  | 334     |
| <b>April 22</b> | Ps. 119:113–120             | How does God’s word keep us safe? Safe from what?   | 335     |
| <b>April 23</b> | Ps. 119:121–128             | Of what value is God’s word to you?   | 336     |
| <b>April 24</b> | Ps. 119:129–136             | How wonderful is God’s word to you? Do you long after his commandments? Are you grieved when you see the world disregard God’s law? | 337     |
| <b>April 25</b> | Ps. 119:137–144             | What six words are used to describe God’s word in this section?   | 338     |
| <b>April 26</b> | Ps. 119:145–152             | Why is the psalmist crying? What truth comforts him (v. 151)?   | 339     |
| <b>April 27</b> | Ps. 119:153–160             | What is the source of affliction here? What truths should we place our hope in?   | 340     |

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| <b>April 28</b> | Ps. 119:161–168  | What is the reason for rejoicing and praise?  | 341          |
| <b>April 29</b> | Ps. 119:169–176<br>Isa. 53:6<br>Matt. 15:24<br>Luke 15:3–7 | Do you see your need for deliverance, help, and salvation?  | 342          |
| <b>April 30</b> | Ps. 19:7–9   | Does God’s word cause you to rejoice? Or is it a burden of “musts and must nots”?                                       | 42           |
| <b>May 1</b>    | Ps. 19:10  | Do you desire after God’s word?   | 38           |
| <b>May 2</b>    | Ps. 19:11–13   | What different kinds of sin does David mention? Why should we ask forgiveness for each of these different kinds of sin? | 41           |
| <b>May 3</b>    | Ps. 19:14  | Who is able to deliver us from our sins?  | 40           |
| <b>May 4</b>    | Ps. 1:1–3  | What relationship does the blessed man have with God’s word? What does God’s word do for him?                           | 2 (v. 1–3)   |
| <b>May 5</b>    | Ps. 1:4–6  | How are the ungodly contrasted with the righteous? Why can the righteous stand in the judgment?                         | 2 (v. 4–5)   |
| <b>May 6</b>    | Ps. 63:1–3   | What gets you up in the morning?  | 164 (v. 1–2) |
| <b>May 7</b>    | Ps. 63:4–7   | What is on your heart and mind when you fall asleep at night?   | 164 (v. 3–4) |