

Sermon Notes:
Daniel Patrick
Psalm 119:1-32

These are based on both messages of Psalm 119 on 1-28-24 and 2-4-24.

Psalm 119 is all about God's Word. The writer would have been limited to a majority of the Old Testament, some of the prophets, but not the Bible as we have it.

In 1947, the Dead Sea Scrolls included portions of Isaiah that were word-for-word in 99.5% of the text. These manuscripts found in the cave of Qumran were 1000 years older than the oldest manuscripts that we had at that time.

Throughout the Psalm, the writer mentions his struggles, failures, as well as his desires to know God's command, decree, laws, etc. referring to God's Word.

There is more than enough evidence to prove that the Bible is historically accurate. In fact, there are over 5000 Greek manuscripts of the New Testament with very small variations that give evidence that the Bible we have today is as the original writers intended. These variations are in spelling and notes included by the scribe. No teachings are in jeopardy or in question whatsoever.

Psalm 119:1-16 speaks of trusting in God's Word, and in so doing, the writer knows his life would be blameless as he knew and followed God's Word.

In these verses the writer also asks for help to know God's Word, to follow it, to hide it in his heart.

Psalm 119:15 mentions meditating on God's Word. Much of meditation is similar to "chewing the cud" whereby an animal will chew on his/her food several times in order to help the animal's stomach to process what has been swallowed.

Meditation means more than memorization. To memorize means we can quote something, but to meditate means we have studied and are putting into practice what we have memorized.

Ps. 119:17-32 repeats some of the same ideas found in verses 1-16.

In Psalm 119:18 the writer asks God to open his eyes that he may “See the wonderful things in Your Law.” As important as reading the Bible is, asking God for understanding and listening for God’s conviction, prompting, and insight as we read is equally important.

Ps. 119:25 mentions being laid low in the dust. He knows that only God can deliver him.

There may be times in your life that you have felt this way. God may have answered your prayer in a miraculous way, or circumstances may have turned in your favor. Either way, God can be trusted when we are laid low (119:25).

Study Questions to Consider:

1. Who does the writer say is blameless? (119:1)
2. How should we seek God? (119:3)
3. Does the writer depend upon himself to follow God’s Word? (119:10, 12, 18, 25, 26, 29).
4. Is the writer reflecting on God’s Word only when things are going his way? (Ps 119:22-23, 28).
5. Is the writer committed to seeking God through His Word? (Ps 119:16, 30-32).