

October 3, 1948

Psa. 119:97-105

97. Oh how love I thy law!
It is my meditation all the day.
98. Thy commandments make me wiser
than mine enemies;
For they are ever with me.
99. I have more understanding than all
my teachers;
For thy testimonies are my meditation.
100. I understand more than the aged,
Because I have kept thy precepts.
101. I have refrained my feet from every
evil way,
That I might observe thy word.
102. I have not turned aside from thine
ordinances;
For thou hast taught me.
103. How sweet are thy words unto my
taste!
Yea, sweeter than honey to my
mouth!
104. Through thy precepts I get understanding:
Therefore I hate every false way.
105. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And light unto my path.

What is the divine law?

It is the law of life, for God is life. Through giving full and unreserved obedience to the divine law governing the expression of life we demonstrate eternal life.

How does meditation on the divine law make us love it?

When we meditate on a subject we fix our thoughts on it and explore its implications. When we fix our thoughts on what is for our highest good—the divine law, the law of love, or the expression of the power and love of God—we put ourselves in harmony with the thoughts of God or Truth, which causes us to love the law by which we demonstrate perfection.

How can the divine commandments be ever with us?

By being held habitually in mind the divine commandments become part of our consciousness. As long as we are conscious of them they are ever with us.

How did Jesus simplify the divine law for us?

By showing that we can keep it fully by practicing love toward God and love toward our neighbor.

How does the keeping of the law affect our inner self?

It brings us wisdom and understanding, because as we keep the law and live the Truth, it is expressed toward us as well as by us. "I know him; because I am from him, and he sent me."

June 29, 1947

Psa. 119:105

105. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And light unto my path.

In metaphysical terms what is "light"?

It is understanding; also whatever gives an increase in understanding. "Whatsoever doth make manifest is light." The Christ is "the true light, even the light which lighteth every man, coming into the world."

What is the "lamp unto my feet"?

Whatever shows me unerringly the course I should follow. The creative Word or idea of God, spiritual man, is instinct with understanding and discernment of the right. This is the ever-burning lamp.

See back of this page for:

Psalm 119:1-8

119:33-38

August 28, 1949

Psa. 119:1-8

1. Blessed are they that are perfect in the way,
Who walk in the law of Jehovah.
2. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies,
That seek him with the whole heart.
3. Yea, they do not unrighteousness;
They walk in his ways.
4. Thou hast commanded us thy precepts,
That we should observe them diligently.
5. Oh that my ways were established
To observe thy statutes!
6. Then shall I not be put to shame,
When I have respect unto all thy commandments.
7. I will give thanks unto thee with uprightness of heart,
When I learn thy righteous judgments.
8. I will observe thy statutes:
— Oh forsake me not utterly.

What is shown in the second text of today's lesson, from Psalm 119?

The blessedness of keeping the law of Jehovah, including the testimonies, precepts, statutes, commandments, ordinances, and judgments, as outlined in the verses from Psalm 119.

Is it helpful for us to compare our conduct at every point with the divine law and by this means seek to choose the right course to follow?

It is, especially for the young, whose habits have not been fully formed.

"Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way?

By taking heed thereto according to thy word."

September 29, 1946

Psa. 119: 33-38

33. Teach me, O Jehovah, the way of thy statutes;
And I shall keep it unto the end.
34. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law;
Yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.
35. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments;
For therein do I delight.
36. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies,
And not to covetousness.
37. Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity,
And quicken me in thy ways.
38. Confirm unto thy servant thy word,
Which is in order unto the fear of thee.

Is it possible for us to love God without having first learned to love other people?

No. Love is the first of the divine laws, and we have no other way of learning to keep the law except as we keep it in relation to others like ourselves. The thought of God divorced from life is an abstraction difficult to realize, but the Godlike life is definite and understandable. We express it better in our relations with others than in the solitude of our own soul.

How can we love our enemies?

By keeping our thoughts stayed on divine love and holding the same consciousness with respect to all who are the objects of our thought, we can love friend and foe alike.

How can we cause love of our enemies to become genuine or actual instead of assumed?

By praying for them. The sincerest motives of the soul are expressed in prayer, and a sense of communion with God is the most genuine feeling we can know. Therefore we learn to love our enemies by praying for them.