

The Word on the Word Series: 4

Psalm 119

God Reveals Himself Through This Psalm

This psalm not only shows us what God has to say about His own Word and the characteristics of it but also through it He chooses to reveal Himself and His attributes.

“A man without his word is nothing, a real man keeps his word” - quotation

This theme is Biblical, in Psalm 15.1-4 we read

“LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart; He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbour, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honours those who fear the LORD; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change”

also in Numbers 30.2 and 1 John 2.5 we read that we are to be men and women of our word.

“If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by some agreement, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth” Numbers 30.2

“But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him” 1 John 2.5

God is a God of His Word – He says what He means and means what He says, therefore we can believe every word that He has uttered and spoken forth from His mouth. Because of this we also understand that God and His Word cannot be separated.

Let's turn to Psalm 119 and see what the psalmist says about God's word which is also true of God

Righteousness (vss 7, 62, 75, 106, 123, 138, 144, 160, 164, 172)

- God is righteous and just.
- His name is Jehovah Tsidkenu (Lord our Righteousness) – Jeremiah 23.6
 - 2 Chronicles 12.6; Psalm 7.9; Psalm 116.5

Good (vs68)

- God is good all the time and all the time God is good.
- This one verse tells us all we need to know about the goodness of God – He does not put bad things on us like sickness and disease, He only does good for us.
 - Nehemiah 2.18; Psalm 73.1; 3 John 1.11; Romans 2.4

Trustworthy (vs42)

- The implication of this word in the Hebrew is that of a place of refuge and safety. We can trust God's word and God is our place of safety, we can take refuge under the shadow of His wings (Psalm 91.1-2)
- His word is totally trustworthy – we can have boldness and confidence in it so much so that we build our lives upon it.
 - 2 Samuel 22.31; Psalm 56.11; Psalm 62.8; 1 Timothy 4.10

True (vss 43, 142, 151, 160)

- God's Word is true – it is stable, sure and certain. The entirety of it is true
- God can be trusted – He is dependable – He will not fail (Deuteronomy 31.6-8 AV)
 - Jeremiah 10.10; John 3.33; John 17.3

Faithful (vs86)

- God is forever faithful to His Word. He will not allow one jot or tittle to fail, He watches over it to bring it to pass (1 Samuel 3.19; Jeremiah 1.12)
 - Deuteronomy 7.9; Hosea 11.12; 1 Corinthians 1.9; Hebrews 2.17

Unchangeable (v89)

- His word is settled in heaven.
- God never changes
 - Psalm 89.34 ; Malachi 3.6; Hebrews 13.8; James 1.17

Eternal (vss 90,152)

- He is the eternal God – He is from 'everlasting to everlasting'
- One line in the Bible that confirms this to me is the first one - "*In the beginning God...*"
 - Genesis 21.33; Deuteronomy 33.27; Isaiah 40.28; Romans 16.26; 1 Timothy 1.17

Light (vs105)

- The word is a lamp and a light – it brings illumination and revelation
- God is our light, our guide, the Captain of our lives.
 - Isaiah 60.19; John 1.7; 1 John 1.5

Pure (v140)

- The word *pure* in this verse means to be 'tried, tested, proven true, and refined'
- The Lord is the Refiner – His Word is tried and tested in the crucibles of our hearts
 - Malachi 3.2-3; Psalm 7.9; Psalm 105.19