

The Psalms
(Lesson 34)

Introduction:

1. Jesus indicated in Luke 24:44 that the Psalms are part of the Old Testament Scriptures.
2. Consequently, the Psalms *"were written for our learning"* (Romans 15:4).
3. By studying the Psalms we can gain knowledge on a wide variety of subjects.
4. This lesson is based on Psalm 119.
5. Psalm 119 is the longest Psalm -- it consists of 176 verses.
6. The structure of Psalm 119 is unique.
 - a. It is divided into 22 sections that are based on the letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
 - b. Each section is composed of 8 verses with the first word in each verse beginning with the same letter.
7. More important than the structure of Psalm 119 is its message.
8. This Psalm reveals some important information that relates to God's Word.
 - a. It describes God's Word.
 - b. It shows how God's people have certain responsibilities that relate to His Word.
 - c. It reveals some of the special blessings available to those who fulfill the responsibilities that God has given in connection with His Word.

Discussion:

- I. GOD'S WORD IS DESCRIBED
 - A. It is valuable (vs.72).
 - B. It is faithful (vs.86).
 - C. It is settled (vs.89).
 - D. It is sweet (vs.103).
 - E. It is right (vs.128).
 - F. It is wonderful (vs.129).
 - G. It is pure (vs.140).
 - H. It is truth (vs.151).
 - I. It is everlasting (vs.160; Matthew 24:35).
- II. GOD'S PEOPLE HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT RELATE TO HIS WORD
 - A. God's people must have vision to appreciate His Word (vs.18).
 - B. God's Word is to be:
 1. kept and observed (vs.34)
 2. trusted (vs.42)
 3. loved (vs.47-48)
 4. learned (vs.73)
 5. meditated upon (vs.97)
 6. respected (vs.117).
- III. GOD PROVIDES SPECIAL BLESSINGS TO THOSE WHO FULFILL THESE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT RELATE TO HIS WORD
 - A. (vs.1) Those who *"walk in the law of the Lord"* are *"blessed."*
 - B. Blessings include:
 1. cleansing (vs.9)
 2. power to overcome temptation (vs.11)
 3. strength (vs.28)
 4. hope (vs.49)
 5. fellowship (vs.63)
 6. understanding (vs.104)
 7. light (vs.105)
 8. joy (vs.162)
 9. peace (vs.165)
 10. understanding (vs.169).