


Holiness – The Path to Happiness


Psalm 119:9-11





Chapter Background

- Psalms 119 contains 22 units arranged in the Hebrew Alphabet of 8 verses each.
- It is the longest chapter in the Bible.
- The Scriptures is mentioned 171 times in 176 verses.



Chapter Background

- It describes the Bible as the Law, Word, Judgements, Testimonies, Commandments, Statutes, and Precepts of the Lord. (compare to Ps 19:7-9)
- It opens up with the word Blessed. (v1)



Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalms 119:9-11



Question

*“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?”
(v. 9a)*

- How can I make and maintain a clean way?
- How can I get right and keep right with the Lord?
- How can I become and remain practically holy?

*“ Never was there a more important question for
any man.” - Spurgeon*



Problem

We are polluted with sin from birth. (Psalms 51:1-5)

- We need to be aware early on about the problem.
- We need God's mercy to take sin away from us.



Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 51:1-5



Answer

“...by taking heed thereto according to thy word.” (v.9b)

- We are prone to thoughtlessness, carelessness, presumption, self-confidence. (Proverbs 3:7; 14:12)
- Take Heed means to guard, to watch, or to save from danger. (Jn 2:15-17; Mk 8:36)



Application

*“With my whole heart have I sought thee:”
(v. 10a)*

- Life is not about finding yourself. (Matt 10:39)
- You don't have the answer within you. (Romans 7:18)
- You are lost. (Rom 3:12; Prov 3:5-6)

A person in a white shirt stands in a field of wheat, arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph, with a bright sun and cloudy sky in the background. The scene is captured from behind the person, looking towards the horizon.

Application

*“...O let me not wander from thy commandments.”
(v. 10b)*

- Your knowledge of God cannot exceed your knowledge of the Scriptures. (Psalms 138:2)
- You are only as close to God as you are to His commandments. (John 14:15)
- It requires more than just information; it requires inclination. (Psalms 19:7)



Application

*...O let me not wander from thy commandments.
(v. 10b)*

- It requires more than just information; it requires inclination. (Psalms 19:7)
- It requires total dependence on God.



Challenge

“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” (v.11)

- The best thing is the WORD OF GOD.
- The best place is your heart.
- The best aim is to be holy for God.



Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalms 19:12-14



Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalms 119:9-11