



Psalm 119

Lesson 2

The reason the writer of Psalm 119 was fully committed to God's Law wasn't because of the details of the Law itself, but because of the purpose and heart of God that it revealed. In the last lesson some of the foundational aspects of God's nature identified through His names revealed many powerful revelations of His person. God Almighty, God everlasting, God our Creator, God our healer, and God our provider and protector paint a picture that should cause His creation to trust and obey Him. In addition, God is Truth and fully faithful to all He has promised. These factors must certainly have been some of the reasons the psalmist was passionately determined to seek God and His Word in every aspect of his life. If God is who He reveals Himself to be, then only a fool would not commit his life to pursuing Him. And if this God gave the Law as the means of knowing Him, then knowing and understanding the Law would be the first avenue of that pursuit.

But God didn't stop with these revelations of His person. Because He wants people to know Him, He continues in His Word to identify Himself more fully through His attributes which are expressions of His nature. These attributes give a more complete picture of who God is and why His creation would benefit in seeking Him. The writer of Psalm 119 expresses many of those qualities and identifies them as his motivation for his life commitment to God's law. Though he desperately seeks to know all aspects of God's law, he does so because it is the expression of God's heart and mind. And to know God personally that way is the essence of life for which man was created.

"Thus says the Lord, 'Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on the earth; for I delight in these things, declares the Lord.'" Jeremiah 10:23-24

LESSON 2 REVELATION OF GOD THROUGH HIS ATTRIBUTES

1. *In the following verses, how does God identify Himself?*

Exodus 34:6-7

Numbers 14:18

Deuteronomy 7:9

2. *The Lord uses the word lovingkindness to describe Himself throughout Scripture. Therefore, we can assume this is one of His attributes that He wants us to fully understand to form the foundation of our relationship to Him.*

Lovingkindness-hesed-compassion; mercy; grace. It is often used in relation to God's covenantal relationship with Israel but is also used to express God's overall love for humanity. It signifies a deep, unconditional, enduring love that is rooted in commitment and loyalty. It is not a feeling but an action. It is translated as mercy, kindness, steadfast love, or loyalty. It is used about 250 times to describe God's person and His unique response to His creation.

For each of the verses below, write the phrase used regarding God's lovingkindness.

e.g. Psalm 119:41 ...may Thy lovingkindness come to me, Lord

Psalm 119:76...

Psalm 119:64 ...

Psalm 119:88...

Psalm 119:124...

Psalm 119:149...

Psalm 119:159...

Psalm 40:11...

Psalm 63:3...

Psalm 89:33...

Psalm 136...

Lamentations 3:22-23...

3. *The word hesed is not literally given in the New Testament but is designated by several other Greek terms. What terms or descriptions are used that correlate to hesed in Ephesians 2:7, Titus 3:4-6, 1 Peter 1:3, and Luke 1:50?*
4. *Why is that attribute of God foundational to our love for God and His Word? How would a relationship with God be hindered if lovingkindness was not God's response to us?*

Another term used by the psalmist to identify God and His law is the word “righteous” or “righteousness.” The word is tsedeq in Hebrew and means rightness, equity, prosperity. It is used to describe God’s attributes, human conduct, and societal norms. It is not merely a legal term in relating to justice but encompasses ethical behavior and fair dealing with others. It is also associated with prosperity and peace, suggesting that a society grounded in righteousness will experience well-being and harmony.

5. *How does the psalmist of chapter 119 identify all aspects of God’s law in the following verses?*

119:7

119:62

119:137-138

119:144

119:160

119:164

119:172

6. *The word “righteousness” assumes the idea of something being the right thing in contrast to being wrong and beneficial in contrast to damaging. Why is God the only One who can identify or specify what is absolutely righteous and what is not? How does that concept relate to God’s laws and human response to them?*

7. *According to Psalm 53:1-4 and Romans 3:10-23, what is man’s dilemma regarding righteousness? Although the psalmist sought righteousness through God’s law because he knew all of God’s law was righteous, why could he never have attained righteousness through the Law? What is the only way for man to attain full righteousness?*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
