



PSALM 119

“The Fulfilled Version”

Reconstituting Old Testament responses to the law code by using them to celebrate Christ as the “fulfillment” of the Law
David Bryant

This is a project I've been waiting to try for a long time. As we know, Psalm 119 (the longest chapter in the Bible) is famous for its laser focused, single-minded love for and commitment to God's Law: to its codes, commands, statutes, precepts, principles and promises. Psalm 119 is an acrostic poem, the stanzas of which begin with successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet; moreover, the verses of each stanza begin with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

What I've done below is take Psalm 119, as a great hymn of praises and supplications passionately oriented toward the law code, and reconstituted the themes of each verse, to show how it would read if the Psalmist had known how it was all wrapped in Christ alone.

How might King David have tried to express the same thoughts, desires, joys, concerns (etc.), if he did so knowing about God's Son, who “fulfills” and “fills full” the law code and, therefore, is worthy of every kind of affection and exultation recorded in Psalm 119 about the Law?

In other words: How should Christians read this Psalm (or any Psalm) differently from the way Old Testament saints would have read it? What might be different about how a follower of the exalted Jesus would re-word it? How would it sound if read as a hymn to Jesus rather than an extolling of the precepts He fulfills and fills-full?

Consider: “I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.” (Matthew 5) “You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life. (John 5). “Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.” (Luke 24) “Refusing to accept God's way, they cling to their own way of getting right with God by trying to keep the law. For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given.” (Romans 10) “For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality.” (Colossians 2)

Which brings us to my paraphrase of Psalm 119 called “**The Fulfilled Version**”. Use the two columns below to compare this version with the focus of the original Psalm 119. You'll see how carefully I've faithfully reflected the flavor, focus and fervor of each verse, but “fulfilling” them in Christ. The “adjustments” to the original are modest, but the implications of these changes are potent for expressing the heart of what John Stott terms a “New Testament Christian” (vs. “Old Testament Christians”— see John Stott's Romans, commentary on chapter 7). I've addressed all of

it to the Father about His Son. So, for example, wherever the word “LORD” (“Yahweh”) appears in the NIV version, I have replaced it with “Father” in my “fulfilled version”.

Suggestion: Try reading the version out loud as an act of worship. See how it “feels” to express yourself in this way to the Father about all His Son means to you. Do so at one time; or read 3-4 sections per day during devotions. I believe, with a proper orientation for the reader, this tool provides one effective way to help believers understand how fully Christ should dominate our thoughts and feelings and desires and passions – and our living. As well, it can help them recognize any defectiveness in their current vision of glory of Christ, to discover how unintentionally they have been drawn away from Him by an “Old Testament” approach to New Testament discipleship.

What I’ve done with Psalm 119 is but one example of how to make the entire Old Testament foster the development of “New Testament Christians”. It has helped me grasp how to start unlocking new ways to capitalize on many other Christologically-rich sections of the Hebrew Bible, so as to enlarge the hope and passion of New Testament Christians for their Redeemer and Lord – for ALL He is.

(Write for my essay: **“Old Testament Christians: One Tragic Consequence of Our Current Crisis of Christology”** for more on why this approach to the Old Testament is so desperately needed – www.ProclaimHope.org.)

⌘ Aleph

1 Blessed are those whose ways are led
by your Spirit,
who follow your Son, Father, faithfully
and passionately.
2 Blessed are those who obey Jesus as
their Lord
and seek him with all their hearts—
3 they do no wrong
as they live for Christ alone.
4 Father, you have revealed Him to us by
the Spirit
so we might live for His glory and praise.
5 Oh, that my ways were steadfast
in pursuing your Son totally.
6 Then I would not be put to shame
when I testify to others of His death and
resurrection.
7 I will praise Him with an upright heart
as I sit at His feet, who has ascended on
high, to learn from Him.

⌘ Aleph

1 Blessed are those whose ways are
blameless,
who walk according to the law of the LORD.
2 Blessed are those who keep his statutes
and seek him with all their heart—
3 they do no wrong
but follow his ways.
4 You have laid down precepts
that are to be fully obeyed.
5 Oh, that my ways were steadfast
in obeying your decrees!
6 Then I would not be put to shame
when I consider all your commands.
7 I will praise you with an upright heart
as I learn your righteous laws.
8 I will obey your decrees;
do not utterly forsake me.

8 I will give Him the supremacy in all things;
let your Spirit continue to fill me and use me for His sake.

2 Beth

9 How can a young person stay on the path of purity?
By setting his affections on the Lord of his life.
10 I seek Jesus with all my heart;
do not let me stray from His presence.
11 I have opened my heart to Christ, for Him to rule my life,
that I might not sin against you, Father.
12 Praise be to you, Father;
show me more and more of your Son.
13 With my lips I recount
the unsearchable wealth you give us in Christ.
14 I rejoice in following Him
as one rejoices in great riches.
15 I meditate on ALL He is
and consider all His ways.
16 I delight in your Kingdom purposes in Him;
I will not neglect my commitment to the King.

7 Gimel

17 Fill me with the good work of your Spirit while I live, that I may serve your Son in all ways.
18 Open my eyes by your Spirit that I may see wonderful promises you offer us in Christ.
19 I am a stranger on earth;
let me always sense how Jesus is walking with me.
20 My soul is consumed with longing for Jesus at all times.
21 You rebuke the arrogant who are accursed,
those who walk away from the Master who bought them.
22 Remove from me their scorn and contempt,

2 Beth

9 How can a young person stay on the path of purity?
By living according to your word.
10 I seek you with all my heart;
do not let me stray from your commands.
11 I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you.
12 Praise be to you, LORD;
teach me your decrees.
13 With my lips I recount
all the laws that come from your mouth.
14 I rejoice in following your statutes
as one rejoices in great riches.
15 I meditate on your precepts
and consider your ways.
16 I delight in your decrees;
I will not neglect your word.

7 Gimel

17 Be good to your servant while I live,
that I may obey your word.
18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.
19 I am a stranger on earth;
do not hide your commands from me.
20 My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times.
21 You rebuke the arrogant, who are accursed,
those who stray from your commands.
22 Remove from me their scorn and contempt,
for I keep your statutes.
23 Though rulers sit together and slander me,
your servant will meditate on your decrees.
24 Your statutes are my delight;
they are my counselors.

for I honor Jesus as the sole joy of my
life.
23 Though rulers sit together and slander
me,
I will not deny Him nor cease to praise
Him.
24 Your Son is my delight;
He remains my wonderful counselor.

7 Daleth

25 I am laid low in the dust;
preserve my life in the power of Jesus'
resurrection.
26 I gave an account of my ways and you
answered me;
so now take me deeper with Christ this
day.
27 Cause me to understand all you have
decreed in Christ,
that I may meditate on all He
accomplished on the cross.
28 My soul is weary with sorrow;
strengthen me with the power and
presence of your Son.
29 Keep me from deceitful ways;
be gracious to me and draw me into the
life of Jesus.
30 I have chosen the way of faithfulness
to Him;
I have set my heart on Christ alone.
31 I hold fast to your Son, Father;
do not let me be put to shame.
32 I run in the path of your calling to me
in Christ Jesus;
for your Spirit as broadened my
understanding of how supreme He is.

8 He

33 Teach me, Father, everything about the
glory of Christ,
that I may follow Him to the end.^[b]
34 May your Spirit give me revelation so I
hold fast to Him
and obey Him with all my heart.
35 Direct me into obedience to the reign
of Christ,
for there I find delight.
36 Turn my heart toward Him over and

7 Daleth

25 I am laid low in the dust;
preserve my life according to your word.
26 I gave an account of my ways and you
answered me;
teach me your decrees.
27 Cause me to understand the way of your
precepts,
that I may meditate on your wonderful
deeds.
28 My soul is weary with sorrow;
strengthen me according to your word.
29 Keep me from deceitful ways;
be gracious to me and teach me your law.
30 I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I have set my heart on your laws.
31 I hold fast to your statutes, LORD;
do not let me be put to shame.
32 I run in the path of your commands,
for you have broadened my understanding.

8 He

33 Teach me, LORD, the way of your
decrees,
that I may follow it to the end.^[b]
34 Give me understanding, so that I may
keep your law
and obey it with all my heart.
35 Direct me in the path of your
commands,
for there I find delight.

over again,
and not toward selfish gain.
37 Turn my eyes away from worthless things;
preserve my life in Jesus, focused on ALL he is.
38 Fulfill your powerful promises to those who belong to your Son so that you may be feared.
39 Take away the disgrace I dread, for you work all things together for good when we belong to Jesus.
40 How I long to know Christ and be found in Him;
in His righteousness, preserve my life.

1 Waw

41 May your unfailing love in Jesus saturate me,
Father, may your salvation be displayed, according to your promise in Jesus;
42 then I can answer anyone who taunts me,
for I trust in all you have revealed in His redeeming work.
43 Never take the truth about Jesus from my mouth,
for I have declared my hope in Him for all things.
44 I will always seek to pursue and please your Son,
for ever and ever.
45 I will walk about in the Spirit's freedom,
for I am redeemed by Jesus' saving work for us.
46 I will speak of the Lord Jesus before kings
and will not be put to shame,
47 for I delight in His great salvation and everlasting reign,
because I love Him above all things.
48 I reach out every day to your Son,
whom I love,
that I may live my whole life in intimate fellowship with Him.

36 Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain.
37 Turn my eyes away from worthless things;
preserve my life according to your word.^[c]
38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared.
39 Take away the disgrace I dread, for your laws are good.
40 How I long for your precepts!
In your righteousness preserve my life.

1 Waw

41 May your unfailing love come to me, LORD, your salvation, according to your promise;
42 then I can answer anyone who taunts me, for I trust in your word.
43 Never take your word of truth from my mouth,
for I have put my hope in your laws.
44 I will always obey your law, for ever and ever.
45 I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.
46 I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame,
47 for I delight in your commands because I love them.
48 I reach out for your commands, which I love,
that I may meditate on your decrees.

י Zayin

49 Remember how you have united me to Christ,
for you have given me hope in His victories.
50 My comfort in suffering for the Gospel is this:
Your triumphant Son preserves my life.
51 The arrogant mock me unmercifully,
but I do not turn back from testifying to Christ.
52 I remember, Father, all you have purposed in Jesus,
and I find comfort in what you intended to do through Him.
53 Indignation grips me because of the wicked,
who have forsaken your saving grace held out in Christ.
54 Your Son is the theme of my song wherever I lodge, as I follow Him.
55 In the night, Father, I remember how wonderful Jesus is, that I may love Him and obey Him in all things.
56 This has been my practice:
I obey Jesus with heart, soul and strength.

ן Heth

57 Your Son is my portion, Father;
I have promised to exalt Him at all times.
58 I have sought His face with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise in Him.
59 I have considered His ways
and have turned my steps to follow Him alone.
60 I will hasten and not delay
to pour out my life for His Kingdom.
61 Though the wicked bind me with ropes,
I will not turn back from proclaiming Him.
62 At midnight I rise to give you thanks
for all Jesus means to me.
63 I am a friend to all who are united to Him,

י Zayin

49 Remember your word to your servant,
for you have given me hope.
50 My comfort in my suffering is this:
Your promise preserves my life.
51 The arrogant mock me unmercifully,
but I do not turn from your law.
52 I remember, LORD , your ancient laws,
and I find comfort in them.
53 Indignation grips me because of the wicked,
who have forsaken your law.
54 Your decrees are the theme of my song
wherever I lodge.
55 In the night, LORD , I remember your name,
that I may keep your law.
56 This has been my practice:
I obey your precepts.

ן Heth

57 You are my portion, LORD ;
I have promised to obey your words.
58 I have sought your face with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.
59 I have considered my ways
and have turned my steps to your statutes.
60 I will hasten and not delay
to obey your commands.
61 Though the wicked bind me with ropes,
I will not forget your law.
62 At midnight I rise to give you thanks
for your righteous laws.
63 I am a friend to all who fear you,
to all who follow your precepts.
64 The earth is filled with your love, LORD ;
teach me your decrees.

to all who give Him first place in everything.

64 The earth is filled with Christ's reigning love,
Father; so, now, teach me to surrender more fully to Him
and live to please Him.

‡ Teth

65 Pour out your Spirit upon your servant according to all you have given me in Jesus, Father.
66 Teach me knowledge and good judgment,
for I keep close to Christ in all my ways.
67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I have come back to Christ to stay.
68 You are good, and what you do is good;
which is why I want you to bring me into all the goodness of Jesus.
69 Though the arrogant have smeared me with lies,
I keep close to Jesus with all my heart.
70 Their hearts are callous and unfeeling, but my delight is in the risen and reigning Son of God.
71 It was important for me to be afflicted so that I might learn how good it is to live in the victory of Christ.
72 What you have shown me about Jesus is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.

‡ Yodh

73 Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to magnify Christ in this body.
74 May those who fear you rejoice when they see me,
for I have put my hope in Christ alone.
75 I know, Father, that your ways in Jesus are righteous,
and that you have afflicted me in order to purify my love for Him.

‡ Teth

65 Do good to your servant according to your word, LORD .
66 Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands.
67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.
68 You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.
69 Though the arrogant have smeared me with lies,
I keep your precepts with all my heart.
70 Their hearts are callous and unfeeling, but I delight in your law.
71 It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.
72 The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.

‡ Yodh

73 Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands.
74 May those who fear you rejoice when they see me,
for I have put my hope in your word.
75 I know, LORD , that your laws are righteous,
and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.
76 May your unending love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant.

76 May your unfailing love to me, as one united to Christ, be my comfort, according to your promise to all who serve Him.

77 Let your Spirit fill me with Christ that I may live triumphantly in Him, for your Son is my supreme delight.

78 May the arrogant be put to shame for wronging me because I serve Jesus; but no matter what, I will stay the course and focus on Him above all else.

79 May those who take Jesus seriously turn to me, those who understand all you have accomplished through His coming into the world.

80 May I wholeheartedly follow Jesus as my King, that I may not be put to shame.

▷ Kaph

81 My soul faints with longing for my glorious Savior; therefore, I have put my hope in all your promises in Him.

82 My eyes fail, looking for your promises in Christ to be fulfilled;

Yet I say, "Soon you will comfort me in Him."

83 Though I am like a wineskin in the smoke, I do not look anywhere else but to Christ.

84 How long must your servant wait for Jesus' reign to break through? When will you confront those who persecute me for His sake?

85 The arrogant dig pits to trap me, because they have no understanding of who Christ is and what He's doing.

86 The advance of your Kingdom among the nations is utterly certain; help me, for I am being persecuted for Christ's sake and the gospel.

87 They almost wiped me from the earth, but I have not ceased to give Jesus preeminence.

77 Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight.

78 May the arrogant be put to shame for wronging me without cause; but I will meditate on your precepts.

79 May those who fear you turn to me, those who understand your statutes.

80 May I wholeheartedly follow your decrees, that I may not be put to shame.

▷ Kaph

81 My soul faints with longing for your salvation, but I have put my hope in your word.

82 My eyes fail, looking for your promise; I say, "When will you comfort me?"

83 Though I am like a wineskin in the smoke, I do not forget your decrees.

84 How long must your servant wait? When will you punish my persecutors?

85 The arrogant dig pits to trap me, contrary to your law.

86 All your commands are trustworthy; help me, for I am being persecuted without cause.

87 They almost wiped me from the earth, but I have not forsaken your precepts.

88 In your unfailing love preserve my life, that I may obey the statutes of your mouth.

88 In your unfailing love for me in Jesus,
preserve my life, so that I may fulfill
everything you've called to
do for my Lord.

ל Lamedh

89 Your victorious Son, Father, is eternal;
His reign stands firm in the heavens.

90 Your faithfulness to us in Jesus
continues through all generations; His
established Kingdom endures.

91 His supremacy in everything endures
to this day,
for all things serve Him.

92 If your Son had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

93 I will never forget Him or all you have
done through Him;

for by your great salvation in Christ you
have preserved my life.

94 Save me, for I belong to the Lord Jesus
Christ

I have sought Him and Him alone with
all my heart.

95 The wicked are waiting to destroy me,
but I keep my mind set on things above
where Christ sits.

96 To all perfection I see a limit,
but your purposes in Jesus for your
people and all creation are boundless.

מ Mem

97 Oh, how I love your Son!

I meditate on Him all day long.

98 Jesus is always with me, teaching me,
and making me wiser than my enemies.

99 I have more insight than all my
teachers,
for your Spirit has given me the mind of
Christ.

100 I have more understanding than the
elders,
for I am totally sold out to live for Christ
alone.

101 I have kept my feet from every evil
path so that I might glorify Christ in all I
do.

102 I have not departed from your laws,
for your Spirit has filled me with a vision
of the greatness of Jesus.

103 How sweet are the words of Jesus to

ל Lamedh

89 Your word, LORD, is eternal;
it stands firm in the heavens.

90 Your faithfulness continues through all
generations;
you established the earth, and it endures.

91 Your laws endure to this day,
for all things serve you.

92 If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

93 I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have preserved my life.

94 Save me, for I am yours;
I have sought out your precepts.

95 The wicked are waiting to destroy me,
but I will ponder your statutes.

96 To all perfection I see a limit,
but your commands are boundless.

מ Mem

97 Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.

98 Your commands are always with me
and make me wiser than my enemies.

99 I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

100 I have more understanding than the
elders,
for I obey your precepts.

101 I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your word.

102 I have not departed from your laws,
for you yourself have taught me.

103 How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

104 I gain understanding from your precepts;
therefore I hate every wrong path.

my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
104 I gain understanding from everything I
have learned from Him,
therefore I hate every wrong path.

י Nun

105 Your Son is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.
106 I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow Him all of my days.
107 I have suffered much;
preserve my life, Father, according to
your purposes in Christ.
108 Accept, Father, the willing praise of
my mouth,
and teach me to know, love and honor
Jesus more and more.
109 Though I constantly take my life in
my hands to serve Him,
I will not forget all I have received in
Him forever.
110 The wicked have set a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from adoring and
exalting my Lord Jesus.
111 Your Son has made me a fellow heir
with Him forever;
He and His Kingdom are the joy of my
heart.
112 My heart is set on honoring Jesus with
my whole life,
to the very end.^[d]

ו Samekh

113 I challenge double-minded people
who play games with Jesus,
but I love to serve Him and magnify Him
with all my being.
114 Jesus is my refuge and my shield;
I have put my hope in Him alone.
115 Away from me, you evildoers,
that I may not cease to give Jesus my
total obedience.
116 Sustain me, Father, according to your
promises to me in Jesus, and I will live;
do not let my hopes in Him ever be
dashed.
117 Uphold me by your Spirit in my union
with your Son, and I will be delivered;
I will always have every reason to

י Nun

105 Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.
106 I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous laws.
107 I have suffered much;
preserve my life, LORD , according to your
word.
108 Accept, LORD , the willing praise of my
mouth,
and teach me your laws.
109 Though I constantly take my life in my
hands,
I will not forget your law.
110 The wicked have set a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from your precepts.
111 Your statutes are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
112 My heart is set on keeping your decrees
to the very end.^[d]

ו Samekh

113 I hate double-minded people,
but I love your law.
114 You are my refuge and my shield;
I have put my hope in your word.
115 Away from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commands of my God!
116 Sustain me, my God, according to your
promise, and I will
live;
do not let my hopes be dashed.
117 Uphold me, and I will be delivered;
I will always have regard for your decrees.
118 You reject all who stray from your
decrees,
for their delusions come to nothing.
119 All the wicked of the earth you discard
like dross;

worship and adore Him.
118 You reject all who turn back and walk
away from Christ,
for their delusions come to nothing.
119 All the wicked of the earth you
discard like dross;
therefore I love your Son more than ever.
120 My flesh trembles in fear as I think
about the majesty of Jesus;
I stand in awe of Him for ALL He is.

י Ayin

121 I have lived for Jesus with my total
being;
do not leave me to my oppressors.
122 Ensure your servant's victory in Jesus;
do not let the arrogant oppress me.
123 My eyes fail, looking for deliverance
in Christ,
looking for your righteous promises in
Him to be fulfilled.
124 Deal with your servant according to
your love for me in Jesus
by your Spirit teach me to know Him and
His ways better and better.
125 I am your servant; may your Spirit
give me fresh revelation
that I may understand all I am in Christ
and all I have in Him.
126 It is time for you to act, Father;
because so many have rebelled against
your Son.
127 Because I love the Lord Jesus
more than gold, more than pure gold,
128 and because I consider Him to be
everything I could ever want, I hate every
path that would lead
me away from Him.

פ Pe

129 Your Son is wonderful;
therefore I obey Him.
130 When your Spirit unfolds the truth in
Jesus this gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
131 I open my mouth and pant,
longing for the fullness of Christ.
132 Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your

therefore I love your statutes.
120 My flesh trembles in fear of you;
I stand in awe of your laws.

י Ayin

121 I have done what is righteous and just;
do not leave me to my oppressors.
122 Ensure your servant's well-being;
do not let the arrogant oppress me.
123 My eyes fail, looking for your salvation,
looking for your righteous promise.
124 Deal with your servant according to your
love
and teach me your decrees.
125 I am your servant; give me discernment
that I may understand your statutes.
126 It is time for you to act, LORD ;
your law is being broken.
127 Because I love your commands
more than gold, more than pure gold,
128 and because I consider all your precepts
right,
I hate every wrong path.

פ Pe

129 Your statutes are wonderful;
therefore I obey them.
130 The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
131 I open my mouth and pant,
longing for your commands.
132 Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your
name.
133 Direct my footsteps according to your

Son.

¹³³ Direct my footsteps according to your purposes in Christ,
let no sin rule over me since He is the Ruler of my heart.

¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may serve Jesus without any hindrance.

¹³⁵ By your Spirit, make the face of Christ shine on your servant
and teach me the ways you desire for me to follow Him.

¹³⁶ Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
when I see how so many have neglected and dishonored the Lord Jesus Christ.

ⲅ Tsadhe

¹³⁷ You are righteous, Father, and therefore all you have done for us in Christ is righteous.

¹³⁸ In Him you have laid down the foundations for righteousness,
therefore your ways in Him are fully trustworthy.

¹³⁹ My zeal for Jesus wears me out,
for my enemies ignore the Gospel of His saving power.

¹⁴⁰ Your promises in Jesus are thoroughly tested,

and your servant loves Him and embraces my great hope in Him.

¹⁴¹ Though I am lowly and despised,
I never turn back from giving Jesus my whole heart.

¹⁴² Your righteous purposes in Christ are everlasting
and your call to us to follow Him is true.

¹⁴³ Trouble and distress have come upon me,
but your Son never ceases to give me delight.

¹⁴⁴ The reign of Christ is righteous at all times and in all places;
give me understanding that I may live more fully for His Kingdom's advance.

word;

let no sin rule over me.

¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may obey your precepts.

¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant
and teach me your decrees.

¹³⁶ Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
for your law is not obeyed.

ⲅ Tsadhe

¹³⁷ You are righteous, LORD ,
and your laws are right.

¹³⁸ The statutes you have laid down are righteous;
they are fully trustworthy.

¹³⁹ My zeal wears me out,
for my enemies ignore your words.

¹⁴⁰ Your promises have been thoroughly tested,
and your servant loves them.

¹⁴¹ Though I am lowly and despised,
I do not forget your precepts.

¹⁴² Your righteousness is everlasting
and your law is true.

¹⁴³ Trouble and distress have come upon me,
but your commands give me delight.

¹⁴⁴ Your statutes are always righteous;
give me understanding that I may live.

ק Qoph

145 I call with all my heart; answer me,
Father,
and I will obey Jesus more and more.
146 I call out to you; save me
and I will exalt your Son more and more.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for your
help;
for I have put my hope in Christ alone.
148 My eyes stay open through the
watches of the night,
that I may fellowship with Christ, my
hope of glory
149 Hear my voice in accordance with
your love for me in Jesus;
preserve my life, Father, because I am
forever united to your Son.
150 Those who devise wicked schemes are
near,
yet they are so far from knowing who
Jesus really is.
151 Yet by your Spirit you remain always
near, Father;
therefore, all your purposes in Christ
stand unshakeable.
152 Long ago I learned about your eternal
designs around your Son, how you have
established His supremacy in the
universe to last forever.

ר Resh

153 Look on my suffering and deliver me,
for I have made your Son my everything.
154 Defend my cause and redeem me;
preserve my life according to your
promises in Christ Jesus.
155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek out Christ's
redeeming work
for the nations.
156 Your compassion, Father, is great;
preserve my life according to your
purposes in your dear Son.
157 Many are the foes persecuting me for
Jesus' sake,
but I have not turned from testifying of
Him before everyone.
158 I look on the faithless among your

ק Qoph

145 I call with all my heart; answer me, LORD,
and I will obey your decrees.
146 I call out to you; save me
and I will keep your statutes.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I have put my hope in your word.
148 My eyes stay open through the watches
of the night,
that I may meditate on your promises.
149 Hear my voice in accordance with your
love;
preserve my life, LORD , according to your
laws.
150 Those who devise wicked schemes are
near,
but they are far from your law.
151 Yet you are near, LORD ,
and all your commands are true.
152 Long ago I learned from your statutes
that you established them to last forever.

ר Resh

153 Look on my suffering and deliver me,
for I have not forgotten your law.
154 Defend my cause and redeem me;
preserve my life according to your promise.
155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek out your decrees.
156 Your compassion, LORD , is great;
preserve my life according to your laws.
157 Many are the foes who persecute me,
but I have not turned from your statutes.
158 I look on the faithless with loathing,
for they do not obey your word.
159 See how I love your precepts;
preserve my life, LORD , in accordance with
your love.
160 All your words are true;
all your righteous laws are eternal.

people with a broken heart,
for they do not honor your Son as He
deserves.

¹⁵⁹ See how I love Him and His Kingdom
ways;

preserve my life, Father, in accordance
with your love for those who belong to
Him.

¹⁶⁰ Everything you have revealed about
your Son is true; your righteous purposes
in Him are eternal.

W Sin and Shin

¹⁶¹ Rulers persecute me for the cause of
the Gospel,

but, in the face of all of it, my heart
trembles in passion for Him.

¹⁶² I rejoice in your promises to us in
Christ like one who finds great spoil.

¹⁶³ I hate and detest falsehood
but I love the truth that I have found in
Jesus.

¹⁶⁴ Seven times a day I praise Him who is
my Savior

I praise all you have revealed of your
glory in Him.

¹⁶⁵ Great peace have those who love Jesus
alone;

and nothing can make them stumble as
they live for Him alone.

¹⁶⁶ I wait for the consummation of your
salvation,

Father, and I follow your Son in great
hope,

looking for His return.

¹⁶⁷ I obey Jesus as my Lord, for I love
Him greatly.

¹⁶⁸ I obey your Son and all that His
Kingdom stands
for, for all my ways are known to Him.

W Sin and Shin

¹⁶¹ Rulers persecute me without cause,
but my heart trembles at your word.

¹⁶² I rejoice in your promise
like one who finds great spoil.

¹⁶³ I hate and detest falsehood
but I love your law.

¹⁶⁴ Seven times a day I praise you
for your righteous laws.

¹⁶⁵ Great peace have those who love your
law,

and nothing can make them stumble.

¹⁶⁶ I wait for your salvation, LORD ,
and I follow your commands.

¹⁶⁷ I obey your statutes,
for I love them greatly.

¹⁶⁸ I obey your precepts and your statutes,
for all my ways are known to you.

ן Taw

169 May my cry come before you, Father;
transform my life as you reveal more of
Christ to me.

170 May my supplication come before
you;
deliver me according to your promises in
Jesus.

171 May my lips overflow with praise for
my King,
as your Spirit teaches me more and more
about who He really is.

172 May my tongue sing of your Son,
for all your ways in Him are righteous.

173 May your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen to give your Son the
supremacy in my life.

174 I long to see the increase of your
saving power in Jesus, Father;
His reign and His Kingdom give me
delight.

175 Let me live forever that I may praise
the Lamb at the center of the Throne,
and may my life in Him sustain me in all
the ages to come.

176 If in any way I have strayed like a lost
sheep from the Chief Shepherd,
by our Holy Spirit seek your servant and
bring me back to Christ,
for I will not cease to adore Him and
proclaim to everyone the wonders of His
grace!

ן Taw

169 May my cry come before you, LORD;
give me understanding according to your
word.

170 May my supplication come before you;
deliver me according to your promise.

171 May my lips overflow with praise,
for you teach me your decrees.

172 May my tongue sing of your word,
for all your commands are righteous.

173 May your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.

174 I long for your salvation, LORD,
and your law gives me delight.

175 Let me live that I may praise you,
and may your laws sustain me.

176 I have strayed like a lost sheep.

Seek your servant,
for I have not forgotten your commands.