

## Psalm 119

week 9, v.47-48

Review from v.41.

- 41 please be merciful to me
- 42 so I can answer those against me with confidence in Your word
- 43 persevere your word, help me recall it, I trust in You
- 44 I will guard your word constantly and forever
- 45 and I will walk in freedom, without the constraints of sin, as I search Your commands
- 46 and I will declare Your testimonies boldly even before kings and will not be ashamed

David's love of God's truth leads to his delight in it and affection towards it:

Ps 119:47-48 And I shall delight in Thy commandments, which I love. 48 And I shall lift up my hands to Thy commandments, which I love; and I will meditate on Thy statutes.

delight <sha'a'> dandle, affection, fondness

The word 'dandle' actually means to bounce a child upon a knee. This is a sweet picture of devoted love and fondness.

Think – this type of delight can only come from a relationship; knowledge alone cannot produce the fondness in a heart towards something/someone. There is power in the delight of God's commands:

Ps 94:19 When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Thy consolations delight my soul.

What is your biggest delight? Things or people in the world, or the word of God? Assuming your answer is God, how is this demonstrated in your life?

Think of the different responses to God's word you may receive from others. We've had several unexpected deaths in our congregation in the last year or so.

When conversation arises about these events notice the different reactions to your praise of God for His perfect plan. Does someone who is without understanding, or even someone who is struggling in the faith, respond with the same joy in God's faithfulness?

Ps 119:16 I shall delight in Thy statutes; I shall not forget Thy word.

Ps 112:1 Praise the LORD! How blessed is the man who fears the LORD, Who greatly delights in His commandments.

The definition for the word delight is 'a feeling of extreme pleasure or satisfaction; something or someone that provides a source of happiness'. Do you view God's commandments with pleasure?

David says he loves God's commands.

Ps 119:127 Therefore I love Thy commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold.

Ps 119:140 Thy word is very pure, Therefore Thy servant loves it.

Ps 119:167 My soul keeps Thy testimonies, And I love them exceedingly.

Ps 19:7-10 The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether. 10 They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

'That which is the burden of the carnal heart is the delight of the renewed soul. The former is enmity against God, and therefore is not and cannot be subject to his law. The latter can delight in nothing else.' Bridges

In Psalm 119:47 we see the delight of God's law in a believer's heart; in Psalm 119:48, we see that delight moved to action – "I shall lift up my hands to Thy commandments", and thoughtful examination – "I will meditate on Thy statutes".

Think of a young child who lifts their hands towards you – they have an earnest desire to be picked up, to be closer; a heartfelt need that can only be met by the person the action is directed towards.

Ps 28:2 Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to Thee for help, When I lift up my hands toward Thy holy sanctuary.

Ver. 48. Lift up; to lay hold upon them, to receive and embrace thy precepts and promises by faith and love, and cheerfully and vigorously to put them in practice; Matthew Poole's Commentary

Think back again to the child who is lifting their hands towards you. How do they respond when you reach down and pick them up? They embrace you. In the same way we can ask ourselves the question, "Do I embrace God's commands; wholeheartedly desire them?"

He longed to embrace the truth, and therefore held up his hands to receive it with inward delight. He felt encouraged to practice diligently the law of his God, because he loved the Lord's Word, and daily meditated therein. It should be our daily habit to search the Scriptures. We must not be content with this family reading, but must each, in private, feed upon the precious Word. Are we all mindful of this? Spurgeon Devotional Commentary

Jas 1:22-25 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for [once] he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. 25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the [law] of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.

Ps 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

David is fully devoted to and involved in his relationship to God and his worship of Him.

"And I shall lift up my hand to Thy commandments"      Physically with his body.

"Thy commandments, which I love"      Emotionally with his heart.

"And I will meditate on Thy statutes"      Intellectually with his head.

Is our devotion to God mind, body and soul?