

## Psalms 119

Week 2, v.1 continued

Ps 119:1 How blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

What does it mean to be blameless? This is someone who sincerely (without hypocrisy) and completely believes and follows God.

Blameless <tamiym> integrity, truth: without blemish, complete, full, perfect, sincerely sound, without spot, undefiled, upright, whole

WordWeb – blameless: 1. Free from blame; without fault; innocent; guiltless. 2. Not meriting blame or censure; undeserving of reproof

What is the opposite of being blameless? Blameful – deserving blame, faulty, **guilty**, being wrong, deserving reproof

How does being guilty affect your character? How does an innocent person act?

Gen 6:9; Ge 17:1; 2 Sam 22:24 In these verses, Noah, Abram and David are described as blameless.

De 18:13 "You shall be *blameless* before the LORD your God.

Jos 24:14 "Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in *sincerity* and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

Ps 15:1-2 O LORD, who may abide in Thy tent? Who may dwell on Thy holy hill? He who walks with *integrity*, and works righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart.

Notice the word sincere in the definition of blameless. If you are not sincere you are false, a hypocrite, a pretender, phony.

Does your heart and the things you pursue agree with what you say you believe?

The KJV of Ps 119:1 says, " *Blessed are the undefiled in the way*" .

To be defiled means to be polluted. Things are polluted when contaminants that don't belong are added to something that is clean and pure.

How do you respond when you hear the word of God being twisted? Are you careful to use the word accurately?

Do you love God's word as it is – perfect – or do you add or subtract according to your own liking? Is it okay to follow God in some things but not in others?

Is your desire to be perfectly obedient to the word of God in thought and action?

We cannot take pieces of God's word and use them where they fit conveniently into our lives. God requires all of us, our entire heart. Our physical life, our job, our family, everything that is in our possession. Our thoughts, our dreams, our struggles, our pleasures. There is nothing we can hold out from God and still claim to be sold out to Him.

Lu 18:18, 20-22 And a certain ruler questioned Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"... "You know the commandments, 'DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from [my] youth." And when Jesus heard [this,] He said to him, "One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess, and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

To walk in the law of the Lord means we are continually pursuing holiness. We hear the word by listening, we read the word with a desire to understand it and we have a heartfelt desire to obey the word in our thoughts, in our speech and in our actions. We are working actively to grow in obedience. We are not sitting or standing or lying down just waiting for holiness to happen. To walk requires action, it requires effort, it requires energy, and it requires a choice.

" Lord, if I am not yet so blessed as to be among the undefiled in thy way, yet I will think much of the happiness which these enjoy, and set it before me as my life's ambition." Treasury of David

Mt 6:33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.

1Ti 4:8 for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and [also] for the [life] to come.

Joh 14:6 Jesus \*said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.

Isa 48:17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, Who leads you in the way you should go.

Christ is our way, and we are not only alive in Christ, but we are to live in Christ: the sorrow is that we bespatter his holy way with our selfishness, self-exaltation, willfulness, and carnality, and so we miss a great measure of the

blessedness which is in him as our way. A believer who errs is still saved, but the joy of his salvation is not experienced by him; he is rescued but not enriched, greatly borne with, but not greatly blessed. Treasury of David

Think about this. If you are making a new recipe for a very important occasion, would you read the directions, look at the ingredients, then file it away and try to remember all the steps as best you can and hope it turns out right? What is wrong with this method? What steps would you take to ensure that you followed the exact directions? (You would set the directions in front of you and refer to them frequently, checking to be sure you had the correct ingredients and the right measurements) If you were to keep the recipe in front of you and follow it exactly, how many times would you need to use it in order to remember the exact measurements and directions to replicate the recipe from your memory with complete confidence that you had copied it perfectly?

The Bible has 66 books, 1,189 chapters, and over 31,100 verses depending on which translation you use. In order to understand God's word, remember it and apply it, it needs to be read and contemplated, listened to and studied, continuously sought after and pursued. When we seek to walk in the law of the Lord, we grow more into Christ's likeness and we are blessed by the knowledge of His love for us and the future He holds for us.

You would have to memorize 85 verses out of the Bible every day for an entire year to remember everything the Bible says. You would have to retain the scriptures you previously memorized as you continued to add to them. This doesn't even take into account that the memorized Word would not include a study of the Word for the purpose of complete understanding and correct application. Just based upon these facts alone, how important is it to surround ourselves with the precious truths God, in His graciousness, has given us? Now add to that the consideration of the command to be obedient to Him. What is your response?

There are numerous blessings to count in our lives that have already been graciously bestowed upon us. In order to live in the way that is blameless we have been given Christ. In order to walk in the law of the Lord we have been given the Holy Spirit and immeasurable grace. God continues to pour out His mercies upon us in the form of blessings as He conforms us to His Son.

If you go to a book store you will be able to find dozens of instruction books for different tasks titled ".....for Dummies" . These books list step by step directions for the best use of the item, program or concept you want to learn. It turns something that is a bit foreign into something that is familiar. My NAS Study Bible has 2,214 pages. I would venture to say that none of the " ... for Dummies" manuals have that many pages.

The Bible is our instruction manual. As large as the Bible is, following God really only requires two things: to trust Him fully and to sincerely desire to obey Him completely.

Ps 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. (KJV)

Ps 31:1 In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed; deliver me in thy righteousness.

Ps 62:8 Trust in Him at all times, O people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.

Ps 143:8 Let me hear Thy lovingkindness in the morning; For I trust in Thee; Teach me the way in which I should walk; For to Thee I lift up my soul.

De 13:4 "You shall follow the LORD your God and fear Him; and you shall keep His commandments, listen to His voice, serve Him, and cling to Him.

Jer 7:23 "But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you will walk in all the way which I command you, that it may be well with you.'

Have you given all to Christ? Are you holding anything back? Are you sincerely striving to walk in God' s way, to walk according to His law? If so, the mark of someone whose way is blameless and who walks in the law of the Lord is blessedness. **ARE YOU HAPPY, truly happy within your soul?** If not, if nothing seems right and the way seems too difficult, ask God to show you what you are unwilling to give to Him.

#### Application Questions

Read Psalms 119:1. What does it mean to be blameless?

Is there an area of your life that is not fully committed to God? Do you recognize that He owns everything and therefore all you have and all you are is His? Look up Luke 18:18, 20-22. What is your response?

Think of your day and how it is normally scheduled. Quickly jot down the activities in a typical day of your life beginning first thing in the morning to bedtime. (be honest here, not what your day should be but what it truly is)

What are your priorities according to that schedule?

Are there any adjustments that need to be made?

Read Matthew 6:33 and 1 Timothy 4:8.

Are there other insights God has given you in Psalms 119:1? What additional questions or thoughts has He laid upon your heart? You may want to use your 'Apply It' bookmark to help with personal application.

Don't neglect using your verse packet. You may want to begin memorizing Psalms 119:1. Write this scripture on your index cards along with other scriptures that God has used in your life this week.