Psalm 119

4. Then will I praise with upright heart,
   and magnify thy name:
   When I shall learn of thy judgements just,
   and likewise prove the same.
   And wholly will I give myself
   to keep thy laws most right:
   Forsake me not forever, Lord,
   but show thy grace and might.

5. By what means may a young man best,
   his life learn to amend?
   If that he mark and keep thy word,
   and therein his time spend.
   Unfeinedly have I thee sought,
   and thus seeking abide:
   Oh, never suffer me, O Lord,
   from thy precepts to slide.

6. Within mine heart and secret thoughts,
   thy words I have hid still:
   That I might not at any time
   offend thy godly will.
   We magnify thy name, O Lord,
   and praise thee evermore:
   Thy statutes of most worthy fame,
   O Lord, teach me therefore.

7. My lips have never ceased to preach,
   and publish day and night:
   The judgements all, which did proceed,
   from thy mouth full of might.
   Thy testimonies and thy ways
   please me no less indeed:
   Then all the treasures of the earth
   which worldlings make their need.

8. Of thy precepts I will still muse,
   and thereto frame my talk:
   As at a mark, so will I aim,
   thy ways how I may walk.
   Mine only joy shall be so fixed
   and on thy laws so set,
   That nothing can me so far blind
   that I thy words forget.

9. Grant to thy servant now such grace,
   as may my life prolong:
   Thine holy word then will I keep,
   both in mine heart and tongue.
   Mine eyes which were dim and shut up
   so open and make bright:
   That of thy law and marvellous works,
   I may have the clear sight.

10. I am a stranger in this earth,
    wandering now here now there:
    Thy word therefore to me disclose,
    my footsteps for to clear.
    My soul is ravished with desire,
    and never is at rest:
    But seeketh to know thy judgements high,
    and what may please thee best.

11. The proud men and malicious
    thou hast destroyed each one:
    And cursed are such as do not
    thine hests attend upon.
    Lord, turn from me rebuke and shame,
    which wicked men conspire:
    For I have kept thy covenants
    with zeal as hot as fire.

12. The princes great in counsel sat,
    and did against me speak:
    But then thy servant thought how he,
    thy statutes might not break.
    For why? Thy covenants are my joy,
    and my great hearts solace:
    They serve instead of counsellors,
    my matters for to pass.

13. I am, alas, as brought to grave,
    and almost turned to dust:
    Restore therefore my life again,
    as thy promise is just.
    My ways when I acknowledged,
    with mercy thou didst hear:
    Hear now eftsons, and me instruct
    thy laws to love and fear.

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67 A worldly person.
68 Bidding, command.
69 Soon, or afterwards.
14. Teach me once thoroughly for to know thy precepts and thy lore: Thy works then will I meditate, and lay them up in store. My soul I feel so sore oppressed, that it melteth for grief: According to thy word therefore haste, Lord, to send relief.

15. From lying and deceitful lips let thy grace me defend: And that I may learn thee to love, thine holy law me send. The way of truth both straight and sure, I have chosen and found: I set thy judgements me before, which keep me safe and sound.

16. Since then, O Lord, I forced myself thy covenants to embrace: Let me therefore have no rebuke, nor check in any case. Then will I run with joyful cheer, where thy word doth me call: When thou hast set mine heart at large, and rid me out of thrall.

17. Instruct me, Lord, in the right trade of thy statutes divine: And it to keep even to the end, mine heart will I incline. Grant me the knowledge of thy law, and I shall it obey: With heart and mind and all my might, I will it keep, I say.

18. In the right path of thy precepts guide me, Lord, I require: None other pleasure do I wish, nor greater thing desire. Incline mine heart thy laws to keep, and covenants embrace: And from all filthy avarice, Lord shield me with thy grace.

19. From vain desire and worldly lusts turn back mine eyes and sight: Give me the spirit of life and power, to walk thy ways aright. Confirm thy gracious promise, Lord, which thou hast made to me: Which am thy servant, and do love, and fear nothing but thee.

20. Reproach and shame which I so fear, form me, O Lord, expel: For thou dost judge with equity, and therein dost excel. Behold, mine heart’s desire is bent, thy laws to keep for aye: Lord, strengthen me so with thy grace, that it perform I may.

21. Thy mercies great and manifold let me obtain, O Lord: Thy saving health let me enjoy, according to thy word. So shall I stop the slanderous mouths of lewd men and unjust: For in thy faithful promises standeth my comfort and trust.

22. The word of truth within my mouth let ever still be pressed: For in thy judgements wonderful mine hope doth stand and rest. And while that breath within my breast doth natural life preserve: Yea, till this world shall be dissolved, thy law will I observe.

23. So walk will I, as set at large, and made free from all dread: Because I sought how for to keep thy precepts and thy red. Thy noble acts I will describe, as things of most great fame: Even before kings I will them blase, and shrink no wit nor shame.

70 Advice, counsel.
71 To blazon, proclaim, celebrate.
24. I will rejoice then to obey, 
thy worthy hests and will: 
Which evermore I have loved best, 
and so will love them still.
48Mine hands will I lift to thy laws, 
which I have dearly sought: 
And practice thy commandements and I will in deed and thought.
49Thy promise which thou madest to me 
thy servant, Lord, remember: 
For therein have I put my trust, 
and confidence forever.
50It is my comfort and my joy, 
when troubles me assail: 
For were my life not by thy word, 
my life would soon me fail.
51The proud and such as God contemn, 
still made of me a scorn: 
Yet would I not thy law forsake, 
as he that were forlorn.
52But called to mind, Lord, thy great works 
showed to our fathers old: 
Whereby I felt the joy surmount 
my grief an hundredth fold.
53But yet, alas, for fear I quaked, 
seeing how wicked men: 
Thy law forsook, and did procure 
thy judgement: who knoweth when?
54And as for me, I framed my songs 
thy statutes to exalt: 
When I among the strangers dwelt, 
and thoughts gan me assault.
55I thought upon thy name, O Lord, 
by night when others sleep: 
As for thy law also I keep, 
and ever will it keep.
56This grace I did obtain, because 
thy covenants sweet and dear 
I did embrace, and also keep 
with reverence and with fear.

29. O God, which art my part and lot, 
my comfort and my stay: 
I have decreed and promised 
thy law to keep always.
58Mine earnest heart did humbly sue 
in presence of thy face: 
As thou therefore hast promised, 
Lord, grant me of thy grace.

30. My life I have examined, 
and tried my secret heart: 
Which to thy statutes caused me 
my feet straight to convert.
60I did not stay nor linger long, 
as they that slothful are: 
But hastily thy laws to keep 
I did myself beware.

31. The cruel bands of wicked men 
have made of me, their prey: 
Yet would I not thy law forget, 
nor from thee astray.
62Thy righteous judgement to ward me 
so great is and so high: 
That even at midnight will I rise 
thy name to magnify.

32. Companion am I to all them 
which fear thee in their heart: 
And neither will for love nor dread 
from thy commandements start.
64Thy mercies, Lord, most plenteously 
do all the world fulfil: 
Oh, teach me how I may obey 
thy statutes and thy will.

33. According to thy promise, Lord, 
so haste thou with me dealt: 
For of thy grace in sundry sorts 
have I thy servant felt.
66Teach me to judge always aright, 
and give me knowledge sure: 
For certainly believe I do 
that thy precepts are pure.

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72 Commandments.
73 Uncertain meaning: Began? To go? Stand against, resist, or oppose?
34. Yet thou didst touch me with thy rod,
I erred and went astray:
But now I keep thine holy word,
and make it all my stay.

35. The proud and wicked men have forged,
against me many a lie:
Yet thy commandments still observe
with all mine heart will I.

36. Oh, happy time, may I well say,
when thou didst me correct:
For as a guide to learn thy laws
thy rods did me direct.

37. Seeing thine hands have made me, Lord,
to be thy creature:
Grant knowledge likewise how to learn
to put thy laws in use.

38. When with thy rods the world is plagued
I know the cause is just:
So when thou didst correct me, Lord,
the cause just needs be must.

39. Thy tender mercies pour on me:
and I shall surely live:
For joy and consolation both,
thy law to me doth give.

40. Whoso with reverence do thee fear,
to me let them retire:
And such as do thy covenants know,
and them alone desire.

41. My soul doth faint and ceaseth not
thy saving health to crave:
And for thy word’s sake still I trust
mine heart’s desire to have.

42. As a skin bottle in the smoke,
so am I parched and dried:
Yet will I not out of mine heart
let thy commandment slide.

43. Presumptuous men have digged pits,
thinking to make me sure:
Thus contrary against thy law
mine hurt they do procure.

44. But thy commandments are all true,
and causeless they me grieve:
To thee therefore I do complain,
that thou mightiest me relieve.

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74 Promised, prophesied.
75 Uncertain meaning: To put to shame, reproach or scold, destroy or injure, or damage?
44. 87Almost they had me clean destroyed, and brought me quite to ground: Yet by thy statutes I abode, and therein succour found.  
88Restore me, Lord, again to life,  
(for thy mercies excel)  
And so shall I thy covenants keep till death my life expel.

45. 89In heavens, Lord, where thou dost dwell, thy word is ’established sure: And shall for all eternity fast graven there endure.  
90From age to age thy truth abideth, as doth the earth witness: Whose ground work thou hast laid so sure, as no tongue can express.

46. 91Even to this day we may well see, how all things persevere According to thine ordinance, for all things thee revere.  
92Had it not been that in thy law, my soul had comfort sought: Long time, ere now in my distress I had been brought to nought.

47. 93Therefore will I thy precepts aye in memory keep fast: By them thou hast my life restored, when I was at last cast.  
94No wight76 to me can title make, for I am only thine: Save me therefore: for to thy laws mine ears and heart incline.

48. 95The wicked men do seek my bane, and thereto lie in wait: But I the while considered thy noble acts and great.  
96I see nothing in this wide world, at length which hath not end: But thy commandment and thy word, beyond all end extend.

49. 97What great desire and servant love do I bear to thy law? All the day long my whole devise is only on thy law.  
98Thy word hath taught me far to pass, my foes in policy: For still I keep it as a thing of most excellency.

50. 99My teachers which did me instruct in knowledge I excel: Because I do thy covenants keep and them to others tell.  
100In wisdom I do pass also the ancient men indeed: And all because to keep thy laws I held it aye best reed.

51. 101My feet I have refrained eke from every evil way: Because that I continually thy word might keep, I say.  
102I have not swerved from thy judgements, nor yet shrunk any del:77 For why? Thou hast taught me thereby, to live godly and well.

52. 103Oh, Lord, how sweet unto my taste, find I thy words alway? Doubtless no honey in my mouth, feel ought so sweet I may.  
104Thy laws have me much wisdom learned, that utterly I hate All wicked and ungodly ways in every kind or rate.

53. 105Even as a lantern to my feet, so doth thy word shine bright: And to my paths, wherever I go, it is a flaming light.  
106I have both sworn, and will perform most certainly doubtless: That I will keep thy judgments just, and them in life express.

76 A human being.  
77 Uncertain meaning: ‘Del’ was used in mild imprecations, so perhaps ‘any del’ means ‘at all’ or something similar.
54. Affliction hath me sore oppressed,
   and brought me to death's door:
   O Lord, as thou hast promised,
   so me to life restore.
58. The crafty thoughts and double heart,
   I do always detest:
   But as for thy law and precepts
   I loved them ever best.
59. Uphold me, and I shall be safe
   for ought they do or say:
   And in thy statutes pleasure take,
   will I both night and day.

55. My soul is aye so in mine hand,
   that dangers it assail:
   Yet do I not thy law forget,
   nor it to keep will fail.
56. Thy law I have so claimed alway,
   as mine own heritage:
   And why? For therein I delight
   and set my whole courage.

57. Although the wicked laid their nets
to catch me at a bray:
   Yet did I not from thy precepts,
   once swerve or go astray.
60. Like dross thou cast the wicked out,
   wherever they be, or dwell:
   Therefore can I, as thy statutes,
   love nothing half so well.
61. I do the thing that lawful is,
   and give to all men right:
   Resign me not to them that would
   oppress me with their might.
62. Mine eyes with waiting are now blind
thine health so much I crave:
   And eke thy righteous promise, Lord,
   whereby thou wilt me save.
63. Thine humble servant, Lord, I am:
   oh, grant me t'understand:
   How by thy statutes I may know,
   best what to take in hand.
64. This is the cause wherefore I love,
   thy laws better than gold:
   Or jewels fine which are esteemed
   most costly to be sold.
65. Thy covenants are most wonderful,
   and full of things profound:
   My soul therefore doth keep them sure,
   when they are tried and found.

Astonished.
For joy I have both gaped and breathed, to know thy commandment:
That I might guide my life thereby, I sought what thing it meant.
With mercy and compassion, Lord, behold me from above:
As thou art wont to behold such as thy name fear and love.

Direct my footsteps by thy word, that I thy will may know:
And never let iniquity thy servant overthow.
From slanderous tongues and deadly harms preserve and keep me sure:
Thy precepts then will I observe, and put them eke in ure.

Thy countenance which doth surmount, the sun in his bright hue:
Let shine on me, and by thy law teach me what to eschew.
Out of mine eyes great floods gush out, of dreary tears and fell:
When I behold how wicked men thy law keep never a del.

In every point, Lord, thou art just, the wicked though they grudge:
And when thou dost sentence pronounce, thou art a righteous judge.
To render right and flee from guile, are two chief points and high:
And such as thou hast in thy law command us strictly.

With zeal and wrath I am consumed, and even pined away:
To see my foes thy words forget, for ought that I do may.
So pure and perfect is thy word, as any heart can deem:
And I thy servant nothing more, do love or yet esteem.

And though I be nothing set by, as one of base degree:
Yet do I not thine hests forget, nor shrink away from thee.
Thy righteousness, Lord, is most just, forever to endure:
Also thy law is truth itself, most constant and most pure.

Trouble and grief have seized on me, and brought me wondrous low:
Yet do I still of thy precepts, delight to hear and know.
The righteousness of thy judgements do last forevermore:
Then teach them me, for even in them, my life lyeth up in store.

With servant heart I called and cried, now answer me, O Lord,
That thy commandments to observe, I may fully accord.
To thee, my God, I make my suit, with most humble request:
Save me therefore, and I will keep, thy precept and thine hest.

To thee I cry, even in the morn, before the day wax light:
Because that I have in thy word, my confidence whole plight.
Mine eyes prevent the watch by night, and yet they call, I wake:
That by devising of thy word I might some comfort take.

Encline thine ears to hear my voice, and pity on me take:
As thou was wont, so judge me, Lord, lest life me should forsake.
My foes draw near, and do procure, my death maliciously:
Which form thy law are far gone back, and strayed from it lewdly.

79 'Put in ure' is to put in action or process.
80 Uncertain meaning: 'Del' was used in mild imprecautions, so perhaps 'keep never a del' means 'keep without exception' or something similar.
76. Therefore, O Lord, approach thou near, for need doth so require:
   And all thy precepts true they are, then help I thee desire.
   By thy commandments I have learned, not now, but long ago:
   That they remain forevemore, thou hast them grounded so.

77. My trouble and affliction, consider and behold:
   Deliver me, for of thy law I ever take fast hold.
   Defend my good and righteous cause, with speed me succour send:
   From death, as thou hast promised, Lord, keep me, and defend.

78. As for the wicked, far they are from having health and grace:
   Whereby they bight thy statutes know, they enter not the trace.
   Great are thy mercies, Lord, I grant:
   what tongue can them attain?
   And as thou hast me judged ere now, so let me life obtain.

79. Though many men did trouble me, and persecute most sore:
   Yet from thy laws I never shrunk, nor went awry therefore.
   And truth it is: for grief I die, when I these traitors see:
   Because they keep no wit nor word, nor yet seek to know thee.

80. Behold, for I do love thy laws, with heart most glad and fane:
   As thou art good and gracious, Lord, restore my life again.
   What thy word doth decree, must be, and so it hath been ever:
   Thy righteous judgements are also most true, and decay never.

81. Princes have fought by cruelty causeless to make me crouch:
   But all in vain: for of thy word the fear did mine heart touch.
   And certainly even of thy word I was more merry and glad,
   Then he that of rich spoils and prey, great store and plenty had.

82. As for all lies and falsity,
   I hate most and detest:
   For why? Thine holy law do I above all things love best.
   Seven times a day I praise thee, Lord, singing with heart and voice:
   Thy righteous acts and wonderful so cause me to rejoice.

83. Great peace and rest shall all such have, which do thy statutes love:
   No danger shall their quiet state, impair or once remove.
   Mine only health and comfort, Lord,
   I look for at thy hand:
   And therefore have I done those things, which thou didst me command.

84. Thy laws have been mine exercise, which my soul most desired:
   So much my love to them was bent, that nought else I required.
   Thy statutes and commandments,
   I kept, thou knowest, aright:
   For all the things that I have done, are present in thy sight.

85. O Lord, let my complaint cry, before thy face appear:
   And as thou hast me promise made, so teach me thee to fear.
   Mine humble supplication, toward thee let find access:
   And grant me, Lord, deliverance: for so is thy promise.

86. Then shall my lips thy praises speak, after most ample sort:
   When thou thy statutes hast me taught, wherein standeth all comfort.
   My tongue shall sing and preach thy word and on this wise say shall:
   God’s famous acts and noble laws, are just and perfect all.

87. Stretch out thine hand, I thee beseech, and speedily me save:
   For thy commandments to observe, chosen, O Lord, I have.
   Of thee alone, Lord, I crave health: for other I know none:
   And in thy law, and nothing else I do delight alone.
88. 175 Grant me therefore long days to live,
thy name to magnify:
And of thy judgements merciful
let me the favour try.
176 For I was lost, and went astray,
much like a wandering sheep:
Oh, seek me, for I have not failed,
thy commandments to keep,