

I'M NOT ASHAMED
Psalm 119:41-48

INTRODUCTION

- A. A reminder that as the psalmist wrote this psalm, he was making an acrostic.
 - 1. Because we don't read Hebrew, we don't see it.
 - 2. Even the headings in your Bible do not give justice to an acrostic.
 - 3. This section uses the letter "v" for the acrostic.
- B. But, based on our reading, we can determine if:
 - 1. We have a true love for God's Word.
 - 2. Or, if we are ashamed of His Word.
 - 3. Four steps in measuring our faith in God.

I. LIVE BY GOD'S PRECEPTS, vs. 45 (44).

- A. *"And I will walk at liberty, for I seek Thy precepts."*
 - 1. Lit., the open square of a city.
 - 2. To walk freely – no limits or restraints.
 - a. What limits or restraints? Evil passions (inner conflict).
 - b. Romans 7:9-14 – Paul's battle within.
- B. Obedient to God in the Way We Live.
 - 1. John 14:15; 15:10 – obey His commands.
 - 2. Ephesians 4:1 – walk in a manner worthy...

II. DELIGHT IN GOD'S COMMANDMENTS, vs. 47 (43).

- A. *"I shall delight in Thy commandments, which I love."*
 - 1. Not just to live by God's law – but to "***delight***" in it.
 - 2. The difference in reading MacBeth for a school assignment and reading Harry Potter.
- B. Do We Delight in God's Commands?
 - 1. Worship attendance, because "...if I don't..."
 - 2. Do we thoroughly enjoy time in God's Word?
 - 3. As the Deer:
 - a. My soul ***longs*** after You.
 - b. You alone are my ***heart's desire***...
 - c. ***Only You*** can ***satisfy***.
 - d. I ***long*** to worship You.
 - 4. 1 Peter 2:2, to long for, desire greatly, or crave.

III. MEDITATE ON GOD'S STATUTES, vs. 48.

- A. *"I will meditate on Thy statutes."*
 - 1. To meditate is more than reading.
 - 2. It is to spend time thinking about what you have read.
 - 3. Reading the Bible – leads to study – leads to meditation.
 - a. An opportunity to think through what you have read and studied.
 - b. Making application to your life.
 - 4. Philippians 3:10; 2:5-7

5. 1 Timothy 4:13-15 – absorbed, attend to, **PRACTICE!**

IV. SPEAK OF GOD’S TESTIMONIES, vs. 46 (42).

- A. *“I will also speak of Thy testimonies before kings, and shall not be ashamed.”*
 1. Not disguising our belief in truth.
 2. Not being intimidated from expressing our faith.
 3. Examples:
 - a. Jeremiah, Jeremiah 20:9 (Jerusalem).
 - b. Daniel, Daniel 5 (condemning interpretation to Belshazzar).
 - c. Peter and John, Acts 4:19, 29 (Sanhedrin).
 - c. Apostle Paul, Acts 26:2 (King Agrippa).
- B. Are We Ashamed to Speak His Name?
 1. Romans 1:16
 2. 2 Timothy 1:8; 2:15

CLOSING – Vs. 41.

- A. God’s Lovingkindness.
 1. Throughout Scripture, God has made His lovingkindness and mercy known.
 2. Lamentations 3:22-24
 2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14, based on obedience, vs. 1.
- B. God’s Salvation.
 1. Throughout Scripture, God has pointed to Jesus – our Savior – and the sacrifice that He would freely give for our salvation. Romans 5:6, 8; Titus 3:5-7
 2. God’s Word and our salvation are forever linked together, 1 Peter 1:3.