

**BETTER THAN GOLD AND SILVER**  
**Psalm 119:65-72**

**INTRODUCTION**

- A. For the past couple of weeks (months), our country has been through terrible times:
  - 1. Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.
  - 2. The church shooting in Athens, TN.
  - 3. The mass shooting in Las Vegas.
- B. On the home front, affliction abounds.
  - 1. Loss of family or friends.
  - 2. Sickness.
  - 3. Surgeries.
- C. The question often heard, why?
  - 1. Similar to the penned words of the psalmist.
  - 2. Having gone through difficult times (affliction).
  - 3. What is his answer?

**I. AFFLICTION IN LIFE.**

- A. Verses 67 and 71.
  - 1. We don't know the specific nature of his affliction.
  - 2. If it is David, not too difficult to imagine: Saul, children, enemies abound, etc.
  - 3. Those suggesting return from Babylonian captivity – again, not too difficult to imagine the afflictions in life.
  - 4. The apostle Paul, 2 Corinthians 11:24-28.
- B. But How About in Our Lives?
  - 1. Life Set in Motion.
    - a. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
    - b. Sin brought into the world, Genesis 3; Romans 5:12.
    - c. Physical life decaying, 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:4.
  - 2. Consequence of Sin.
    - a. Satan. 1 Peter 5:8-9.
    - b. Personal choices we make. James 1:13-15
- C. When Arrogance Prospers.
  - 1. Verses 69-70
  - 2. Job 21:7-9
  - 3. Psalm 73:3-9
  - 4. Revelation 6:10

**II. THE ANSWER TO AFFLICTION:**

- A. God is Good, verses 65, 68.
  - 1. God allows things to happen in life, Job 1-2.
  - 2. God does not cause the suffering.
    - a. Unconditional love, 2 Peter 3:9.
    - b. Romans 5:6-11
  - 3. But, He does discipline, John 15:2; Hebrews 12:7-13.
  - 4. Brings growth, James 1:2-4; Romans 5:3-5.

B. God's Word.

1. Knowledge and Discernment, vss. 66.
  - a. Hebrews 5:14
  - b. 2 Timothy 3:16-17, perfect [KJV], thoroughly equipped [NIV].
2. God's Commands Our Desire.
  - a. Vs. 66, I believe in Thy commandments.
  - b. Vs. 68, Teach me Thy statutes.
  - c. Vs. 69, With all my heart I will observe Thy precepts.
  - d. Vs. 70, But I delight in Thy Law.
  - e. Psalm 119:97, "*O how I love Thy law! it is my meditation all the day.*"
  - f. Vs. 72, The law of Thy mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.
  - g. Psalm 19:10-11

**CLOSING**

- A. Why do bad things happen in life?
  1. Not sure that is the best question.
- B. A better question:
  1. How will these bad things impact my life?
  2. Psalmist, "...now I keep God's Word!"