

## Psalm 119:41–48

### God's Way for Us to Respond to His Word

#### Tuesday, June 18, 2024 • Read Psalm 119:41–48

Questions from the Scripture text: What does the Psalmist ask for (v41a)? In what form (v41b)? Why (v42a)? How (v42b)? What does he ask in v43a? Why (v43b)? To do what with (v44a)? How long (v44b)? With what result (v45a)? By what means (v45b)? What will he do before whom (v46a)? With what result (v46b)? How will he relate to the Lord's commandments (v47–48)? What will he do with them (v48c)?

**By what means does the Lord bring His love and salvation into our lives?** Psalm 119:41–48 looks forward to the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these eight verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **the Lord brings His love and salvation into our lives especially by means of His Word.**

This section of Psalm 119 begins with the Hebrew letter that starts more verses in the Old Testament than any other letter. It is usually a prefix on a verb, meaning "and" or "and then" (depending upon usage, as indicated by the vowel pointing). In other words, this stanza lends itself to summarizing the theme of the Psalm as a whole, because the subject matter isn't narrowed down by the letter of the alphabet. And what it does is ask God for His covenant-lovings (kesseds, plural!, v41a) to come savingly (v41b) before discussing how His Word is the means by which the Lord does this. His Word trusted (v42b), spoken (v43a), Hoped in (v43b), kept (v44a), sought (v45b), attested (v46a) and meditated upon (v48c). For this reason, with his own delight in God, love for God, and praise for God, the psalmist delights in God's law (v47a), loves God's law (v47b, 48b), and even praises God's law (v48a). Watch out for those who warn against "idolizing the Bible," as I have sometimes heard done. Scripture here teaches us to pray and sing as those who enjoy, love, and worship God's Word! Indeed, the love of God was made know, and the salvation of God accomplished, by the Word Who was made flesh.

How do you relate to God's Word? What are you doing with it? What is He using it to do in your life?

Sample prayer: Lord, thank You for loving and saving us by Your Word. Make us enjoy, love, and worship it, in Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP119F "O Let Your Lovingkindnesses Now Come" or TPH119F "Let Your Mercy and Love"

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))

Psalm. 119 verses 41-48. These are God's words. Let your mercies come also to me o Yahweh. Your salvation according to your word. So sure, I have an answer. For him who approaches me? For I trust in your word. And take not the word of Truth utterly out of my mouth.

For, I've hoped in your ordinances. So shall I keep your law continually? Forever and ever. And I will walk at Liberty for I seek your precepts. I will speak of your testimonies also, before Kings. And will not be ashamed and I will delight myself in your Commandments. Which I love.

My hands also, I will lift up To your Commandments, which I love. And I will meditate. On your statutes.

So far the reading of God's inspired. And they're interrupt. Acrostic poem in which there are 22 stanzas of eight versus each and Each one of these stands, as then begins with one of the 22 letters. In the Hebrew. Alphabet. There are different, stanzas that The content of the stanza is sort of determined by the letter.

With which the verses start. Because in Hebrew, You build upon the root like a plant often does with a stem. And particular stems. In the Hebrew. Often make the Verb to start with the same letter. So last week, we had the fifth part which is, hey, And the Letter, Begins the hiffel stem, the causative stem.

And so as he asked God, to cause this and cause that The psalmist was hoping in the sovereignty of God. Well, The letter. but we usually save the valve. Is the most common. Starting letter in all of the verses of the Old Testament, it just means and or and then depending on what vowel pointing we have under it and of course, The vowel pointings are 1500 years at least.

after the Psalms were written, but But that means for our purposes and understanding this portion of the psalm and its relationship to the rest of the psalm, Is that? this portion of the psalm was the one that had the most flexibility. Its meaning was not so much determined.

By the prefix letter by the initial letter. In the acrostic poem. And so, we're paying attention to. What he says in these eight verses, because they really are giving us The theme of the whole Psalm. And that is that the Lord? loves us with Covenant love and he saves us.

According to his word and then he gives us. What we are to do. With his word. His word that is this instrument by which he saves us. Which you want to know, what should you do. With the Bible. What should you do with its truths? As God loves you and as God Saves you and he uses his words to do that, what is a has he appointed for you to do with his word?

And so we have in verse 42, you should trust. In his word. Which almost sounds idolatrous except God's word is an expression of himself. As he's going to say, when we get to Psalm 138, he has exalted his word above all his name. And he even refers to his son.

The Redeemer. The one who is eternally begotten of the father. That he is the And that in order to dwell among us and reveal God to us, The word became flesh. And so it's not idolatrous to trust in God's word. Because we know that his word ultimately is a person.

Not just the words by which he expresses himself. But his son, his word by whom. He expresses himself. And so, the Lord Jesus is Intimately connected with the Bible. The Bible, of course, is not Christ. But it is as it were spoken to us by Christ. And we should trust in it, the way we trust in him, and we should love it and praise it.

The way we love him and praise him. So we should trust his word. We should. Speak his word verse 43, the first half, take not the word of Truth, utterly out of my mouth, we should hope. In his word. Second half of verse 43. We should keep his word verse 44, we should seek his word.

Which makes us to walk in Freedom. The wicked thinks that freedom is getting to do whatever he wants. He doesn't realize that he is restrained by a tether. He's as free as a dog. Who's on a leash staked to the ground? And the leash of course is his own sinful nature.

He can never go beyond it or do anything apart from it. But the truth God's word and especially God's son. Our Lord Jesus. He sets us free, we're no longer. Restrained stock tethered by the wickedness of our sinful nature. But liberated into the freedom of his Holiness and his righteousness and his life.

We may live, according to his will. Which is true Freedom. So he says, in verse 45. I will walk at Liberty for. I seek your precepts, so we should trust in his word. We should speak his word. We should hope in his word. We should keep that sword. We should walk in his word.

We should Delight ourselves in his word verse 47. We should love his word verse second, half of verse 47. And second part of verse 48. We should lift up our hands, as we should praise his word. There are some people who falling into a snare of the devil and attacking those who love the Bible and love Theology and love the truth of God's word.

The same sort of people who will say, well, you speak your truth and you say, no. The truth is God's. It's not mine. I don't determine what's true. That's what Satan said you can be like, God knowing good and evil. No, I don't know, Good and Evil the way God does.

God knows good and evil because he determines what is good and forbids and declares what is evil that he hates.

And so that sort of person will say, if you care too much about the Precise, meaning of scripture. Then you are. committing idolatry. You're a Bible, idolater. Praising his word and we say, Psalm 119 says, I will lift my hands. Up to your Commandments. Psalm 138 says, you have exalted your word above all your name.

God's word is an expression of himself. A declaration of himself to us. Now, it's possible for the person who is praising his own. Interpretation of the word. Or himself for his self-perceived. Excellence and understanding the word or a faithfulness and keeping the word. But such a person is not really praising the word, he's praising himself.

But here is another part of what we should do with the word of God. We should praise. God's word. I will lift up my hands. To your Commandments and in the last place. Last part of verse 48, I will meditate on your statute. So What should we do in the Bible?

We should trust in. We should speak it. We should open it. We should keep it. Should walk in it. We should seek it. We should Delight ourselves in God's word. We should love his word. We should lift up our hands to his word. We should meditate upon his word.

Truly, then Believers. Are people of the word? And may, God grant to us. To be people of his word. Let's pray.

Our gracious God and our heavenly Father. We thank you. Forgiving us, your words. Read and trust and hope in and speak and keep and walk in. And lift up our hands too and Delight in and love and meditate upon. Help us Lord to relate to you rightly grant that by your spirit.

We would relate to your word rightly. Thank you for giving it to us. Thank you for giving yourself to us by it. In Jesus name, amen.