

## **“DO YOU REALLY LOVE THE BIBLE?”**

### **PSALM 119:97-104**

#### **INTRO: DO YOU LOVE THE BIBLE? IF YOU ANSWER YES, HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU LOVE THE BIBLE?**

These may seem like simple questions, but in reality they are very serious questions as it relates to our walk with the Lord. WHEN WE LOVE THE BIBLE, WE WILL LIVE FOR THE LORD. WHEN WE DO NOT LOVE THE BIBLE, WE DO NOT LIVE FOR THE LORD. Now the problem is that there are many Christians who “SAY” they LOVE THE BIBLE but their life style does not show it. You see, **when you love the Bible, your life will reveal the Bible in attitudes, actions and activities.** So, before we go any further in this sermon, let me ask you this question, and please be honest with your self. **DOES YOUR LIFE REVEAL THE BIBLE TO OTHERS?** Today from Psalm 119 we are going to see what loving the Bible really is all about and I pray we will all truthfully examine our lives accordingly.

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**THINK ABOUT THIS: TRUE BELIEVERS WHO ARE TRULY COMMITTED TO CHRIST LOVE THEIR BIBLES WITHOUT HESITATION.**

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#### **SOME FACTS ABOUT PSALM 119**

- 1) Psalm 119 is the longest Psalm in the Psalter – 176 verses.
- 2) Psalm 119’s author is not really known. (David, Daniel, Ezra).
- 3) Psalm 119 has been referred to as the “Mount Everest” of the Psalter because of the way it exalts God’s Word.
- 4) Psalm 119 in and of itself will change our lives if we apply it regularly.

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#### **I. THE PURPOSE FOR LOVING THE BIBLE**

##### **BECAUSE OF WHAT IT PRESENTS TO US**

###### **A. In Scriptural Terminology**

NOTE: The Psalm has eight separate but significant words that refer to the scripture that when combined reveal what the Bible is all about.

1. “Judgments” – Divine Legal Pronouncements about God’s Standards
2. “Law” – Divine Instruction for living.
3. “Word” – Speech that reveals God’s person, expectations and will.
4. “Ordinance” – Divine rules and administrative expectations.
5. “Command” – Divine orders and principles
6. “Precepts” – Moral and Spiritual Obligations
7. “Testimonies” – God’s personal declarations concerning His nature and purposes.
8. “Statutes” – Civil and Biblical Regulations.

NOTE: **THE COMBINED TRUTH OF EACH OF THESE WORDS REPRESENTS DIVINE INSTRUCTION FOR GODLY EXPECTATION AND LIVING.**

###### **B. In Spiritual Teaching**

NOTE: The Bible teaches us concepts that cannot be found anywhere else in the world.

1. It presents God’s Absolute Truth to the world
2. It presents God’s Revelation About Himself
3. It presents God’s Power in Creation
4. It presents God’s Plan for the Ages
5. It presents God’s Plan of Salvation
6. It presents God’s Personal Savior
7. It presents God’s Hope for the World

NOTE: The understanding and application of all of the above has the DIVINE POWER TO **CHANGE LIVES.**

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **II. THE PROOF FOR LOVING THE BIBLE**

##### **HOW YOU KNOW THAT YOU LOVE THE BIBLE**

###### **A. Psalm 119 in its Entirety shows that the Author of the Psalm loved God’s Word.**

1. He focused on it before Dawn – Vs. 147
2. He focused on it Daily – Vs. 97
3. He focused on it 7 Times a Day – Vs. 164

4. He focused on it Nightly – Vs. 55
5. He focused on it at Midnight – Vs. 62

QUESTION: **HOW DO YOU MATCH UP TO THE PSALMIST AND GOD'S WORD?**

- B. Psalm 119:97-104 shows what happens when One Loves God's Word
1. You have the desire to Meditate on it Consistently – Vs. 97  
-Cp. Joshua 1:8 and Psalm 1:1-3
  2. You have Spiritual Wisdom – Vs. 98  
-Insight to Divine Truth
  3. You have Divine Understanding – Vss. 99,100
    - a. More than your teachers – Vs. 99
    - b. More than the older people – Vs. 100
  4. You have the desire to Obey the Word of God - Vss. 101,102
    - a. By refusing to allow the "EVIL WAY" to distract you from obeying scripture – Vs. 101
    - b. By Refusing to turn away from biblical teaching – Vs. 102
  5. You have a desire to Taste the Word of God – Vs. 103
  6. You have a hatred for False Teaching – Vs. 104

ILLUSTRATION:

### **III. THE POWER IN LOVING THE BIBLE**

#### **THE EVIDENCE THAT YOU LOVE THE BIBLE**

- A. You will have a changed life.
- B. You will have divine strength.
- C. You will have continued hope.
- D. You will have a positive attitude.
- E. You will have love for others.
- F. You will be spiritually mature.
- G. You will know God's will.
- H. You will produce spiritual fruit.

ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION/LESSON:

- 1) SO, DO YOU REALLY LOVE THE BIBLE? GOD WANTS YOU TO AND WILL BLESS YOU IF YOU DO AND IF YOU APPLY IT TO YOUR LIFE DAILY.
- 2) IF YOU DON'T LOVE THE BIBLE, WHAT DO YOU LOVE IN ITS PLACE?
- 3) IF YOU DON'T LOVE THE BIBLE, WHY NOT?

**TAKE TIME TO READ AND STUDY THE BIBLE DAILY, YOU WILL GROW TO LOVE IT FOR SURE!**