<u>"STRENGTHENED BY THE WORD OF GOD"</u> PSALM 119:25-32 TEXT: VERSE 28

<u>INTRO:</u> Psalm 119 is a <u>VERY PRECIOUS PSALM FOR THE CHILDREN OF GOD</u>. In 176 verses it expresses <u>MORE ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE THAN ANY OTHER ONE PORTION OF THE BIBLE</u>. (Psalm 119 is NOT a chapter – IT IS A SONG – A CANTATA ABOUT THE WORD OF GOD).

THE THEME: "THE PRACTICAL USE OF THE WORD OF GOD IN THE LIFE OF THE BELIEVER."

- It emphasizes the vital ministry the Word of God has in the INNER LIFE of the believer.
- It describes how the Word of God enables believers to grow in HOLINESS and HANDLE the issues of life BIBLICALLY.

THE AUTHOR: Not certain, but it is reasonable to think it was KING DAVID.

<u>NOTE:</u> In the text of the Psalm, there are at least NINE REPEATING WORDS which express the SIGNIFICANCE AND EFFECT OF THE SCRIPTURE.

- 1) COMMANDMENT 22 times A Definite Authoritative Command from God
- 2) JUDGMENT 19 times A Judicial Decision from God
- 3) LAW 25 times A Revelation of the Will of God
- 4) PRECEPT 24 times A Special Mandate from God
- 5) SAYING 19 times A Direct Utterance from God
- 6) STATUTES 22 times A Decree Described by God
- 7) TESTIMONIES 9 times A Witness for God
- 8) WAY 13 times A Course of Action expected by God
- 9) WORD(S) 42 Times An Articulation of the Will of God

NOTE: The compilation of those NINE WORDS plus the emphasis of rest of the text of the Psalm, reveals the IMPORTANCE AND EFFECT OF THE SCRIPTURES from both GOD'S AND OUR PERSPECTIVES. FOR SURE, IT IS A PSALM TO BE STUDIED!

<u>OBSERVATION:</u> The Psalm contains 22 STANZAS, each of 8 verses expressing a unique theme. Today I want us to look at the FOURTH STANZA and ONE SPECIFIC VERSE which is a prayer that also reveals a practical effect of the scripture in our DAILY CHRISTIAN LIVING. – Psalm 119:25-32 – Highlighting verse 28.

<u>OBSERVATION:</u> The Psalm indicates that the Psalmist was in HEAVINESS due to the OPPOSITION of his enemies:

- 1) They Slandered Him (Vs. 23)
- 2) They Restricted Him (Vs. 61)
- 3) They Lied about Him (Vs. 69)
- 4) They Persecuted and Caused Him to Suffer (Vs. 83)
- 5) They Threatened His Life (Vs. 109)
- 6) They Despised Him (Vs. 141)

DUE TO THESE SITUATIONS, THE PSALMIST WAS DEPRESSED AND NEEDED STRENGTHENED BY GOD. <u>HE FOUND STRENGTH</u> IN THE SCRIPTURES.

"STRENGTHEN THOU ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD." PSALM 119:28

A NECESSARY PRAYER FOR EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN LIVING

<u>NOTE:</u> By rendering this prayer the Psalmist was recognizing the spiritual weakness he was facing in his daily life and knew that ONLY BY THE WORD OF GOD could he be delivered from his weakness and depression. NOTE THE DESIRE OF THE PSALMIST – HE DID NOT WANT THE SPIRITUAL WEAKNESS AND DEPRESSION HE WAS FACING TO OVERCOME HIM:

- 1) In Verse 25 he asked for Revival.
- 2) In Verse 26 he asked for Direct Teaching from God.
- 3) In Verse 27 he asked Understanding so that he could teach others.
- 4) In Verse 28 he asked for Spiritual Strength.
- 5) In Verse 29 he asked for Victory over Lying.
- 6) In Verse 30 he makes a Choice for Truth.
- 7) In Verse 31 he asked to be Protected from a Shameful life.
- 8) In Verse 32 he asked for a Heart to Obey and Please God.

THE PSALMIST KNEW THAT ALL OF THIS WAS ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD...THUS HE RENDERED A SIGNIFICANT PRAYER!

I. A PERSONAL PRAYER

-This is a necessary prayer for those of us who know, love, serve, respect and worship God as we face SPIRITUAL WEAKNESS daily.

II. A POSITIVE PRAYER

- A. It Keeps us Focused on God's Person
- B. It Keeps us Focused on God's Promises

III. A PRACTICAL PRAYER

- A. Practical as God's Word gives Wisdom for Daily Living
- B. Practical as God's Word gives Direction for Daily Living
- C. Practical as God's Word gives Victory for Daily Living

IV. A PROVISIONAL PRAYER

- A. God's Word Provides Understanding of Spiritual Error
- B. God's Word Provides Understanding of Spiritual Truth

V. A POWERFUL PRAYER

- A. It Results in the Power over Temptation
- B. It Results in the Power over Sin
- C. It Results in the Power over Personal Desires
- D. It Results in the Power to do God's Will

VII. A PROSPECTIVE PRAYER

- A. Prospective in Relation to Daily Living
- B. Prospective in Relation to Future Reward

APPLICATION AND LESSON

Only by the application of the Word of God comes the STRENGTH to do the WILL OF GOD!