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57 The Lord is my portion;
I have promised to keep Your words.
58 I sought Your favor with all my heart;
Be gracious to me according to Your word.
59 I considered my ways
And turned my feet to Your testimonies.
60 I hastened and did not delay
To keep Your commandments.
61 The cords of the wicked have encircled me,
But I have not forgotten Your law.
62 At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You
Because of Your righteous ordinances.
63 I am a companion of all those who fear You,
And of those who keep Your precepts.
64 The earth is full of Your lovingkindness, O Lord;
Teach me Your statutes.

57 חֲלָקִי יְהוָה אֲמַרְתִּי לְשָׁמֵר דְּבַרְיָךְ :
58 חֲלִיתִי פָנֶיךָ בְּכָל-לֵב חֲזַנִּי כְּאֲמַרְתָּךְ :
59 חֲשַׁבְתִּי דַרְכֵי וְאֲשִׁיבָה רַגְלִי אֶל-עֲדוֹתֶיךָ :
60 חֲשַׁתִּי וְלֹא הִתְמַהְמַהְתִּי לְשָׁמֵר מִצְוֹתֶיךָ :
61 חֲבָלֵי רַשָׁעִים עֹוֲדֵנִי הִוָּרְתָךְ לֹא שָׁכַחְתִּי :
62 חֲצוֹת-לַיְלָה אֲקוּם לְהוֹדוֹת לָךְ עַל מִשְׁפָּטֶי צְדָקָךְ :
63 חֲבַר אָנֹכִי לְכָל-אֲשֶׁר יִרְאוּךָ וּלְשִׁמְרֵי פְקוּדֶיךָ :
64 חֲסִדְךָ יְהוָה מִלְּאָה הָאָרֶץ חֲפִיךָ לְמַדְנִי :

ח: The believer who loves God’s Word rejoices in sharing that devotion with other like-minded believers.

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| <p>1. For just the second time in this Psalm, a strophe contains all eight words for the Word (ו ח י כ פ).</p> <p>2. ח picks up where ז left off. Living the Word of God is a particular possession—it is the believer’s very portion (ψ¹¹⁹57 cf. Ps. 16:5; 142:5; Lam. 3:24).</p> <p>3. Devotion to the Word of God in this strophe is three times called “keeping” (ψ¹¹⁹57,60,63). Only כ and ח contain three uses of שָׁמֵר #8104.</p> | <p>4. Seeking YHWH’s favor is literally soften his face. (ψ¹¹⁹58; Ex. 32:11; 1st Sam. 13:12; 1st Kgs. 13:6,2; 2nd Chr. 33:12; Jer. 26:19; Dan. 9:13; Zech. 8:21–22). God’s response is so often a response of grace and mercy.</p> <p>5. The Christian Way of Life is not a blind faith or a mindless obedience. We are expected to consider the alternative and obediently walk in the right way (ψ¹¹⁹59; Lam. 3:40; Ezek. 18:28; Hag. 1:5,7).</p> | <p>6. The Christian Way of Life is not for the dilatory (ψ¹¹⁹60 cf. Gen. 34:19; Ex. 12:39; 22:29; Deut. 23:21; Ps. 95:7–8; Hab. 2:3; Heb. 10:35–39).</p> <p>7. The Christian Way of Life features tribulation and yet the Word of God sees the believer through it (ψ¹¹⁹61 cf. Ps. 3:1; 69:4; 109:2–5; Jn. 15:18–25; 16:33).</p> <p>8. Difficult times may lead to circumspect methods for the believer’s spiritual walk (ψ¹¹⁹62 cf. Mk. 1:35; Jn. 3:2; Acts 16:25).</p> | <p>9. The greatest companionship to be found on this earth is the companionship with others for whom this world is not their home (ψ¹¹⁹63,79; Jdg. 20:11; 1st Sam. 23:16; Ps. 45:7; 55:13–14; 101:6; Prov. 13:20; Ecc. 4:9–10). Hebron provides us with our proper name word study for this strophe.</p> <p>10. A company of believers devoted to the Word of God fills the earth with the grace of God (ψ¹¹⁹64 cf. Ps. 33:5; 36:5–9; 145).</p> |
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