## Resh

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- **153** Look upon my affliction and rescue me, For I do not forget Your law.
- 154 Plead my cause and redeem me; Revive me according to Your word.
- 155 Salvation is far from the wicked, For they do not seek Your statutes.
- 156 Great are Your mercies, O Lord; Revive me according to Your ordinances.
- 157 Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, Yet I do not turn aside from Your testimonies.
- 158 I behold the treacherous and loathe them, Because they do not keep Your word.
- 159 Consider how I love Your precepts; Revive me, O Lord, according to Your lovingkindness.
- 160 The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

153 ראָה־עַנִיִי וְחַלָּצֵנִי כּּי־תְוֹרַתְדָּ לָא שֵׁכָחָתִי: ִרִיבָה רִיבִי וּגְאָָלֵנִי לְאָמְרָתְדָ חַיֵּנִי: 154 רְחַוֹק מִרְשָׁאַים יְשׁוּעָה כִּי־חֻמִּידָ לָא דַרָשׁוּ 155 רַחַמֵּיד רַבֵּיםו יִהוָה כִּמִשִׁפָּמֵיד חַמֵּנִי: 156 רַבּּים רֹדְפַּי וְצָּדָר מֵאַדְוֹהֶידְ לְא נָטִיתִי: 157 158 רַאָּיתִי בֹגִדִים וָאָתַקוֹטֵטָה אַשֵׁר אָמָרָתָדָ לָא שָׁמָרוּי רָאָה כִּי־פִּקוּדֶיִדְ אָהֶבְתִּי יְהוֹוָה הְחַסְדְדָ חַיֵּנִי: 159 ראש־דְבָרָדָ אָאָת וֹלְעוֹלָם כָּל־מִשְׁפִּט צִּדְכֵךָ: 160

 $\neg$ : God's Word provides us with the proper perspective of our Advocate.

- The Resh is a head (the front of the head) and this strophecouplet sees both back (P) and front (7, 4) of the head. The prayerful follower is suited to become the intimate confidant.
- "Rescue," "redeem," and a triple "revive" grab "R" attention in the ¬ Resh strophe.
- "Look upon" is the first of three גאין ra'ah <sup>#7200</sup> verbs (ψ<sup>119</sup>153,158,159). Reuben supplies our proper-name word association for this strophe (Gen. 29:32).

- a. Ordering the God Who sees everything (Gen. 16:13, Prov. 5:21; Heb. 4:13) to "look upon" His servants is to call all creation as witness to the faithfulness of God (Ps. 25:18,19; Lam. 5:1).
- b. The Psalmist understood the rescue of the Lord in a manner similar to David (Ps. 18:19) and Jesus (Ps. 22:8).
- Believers are not left to plead their own cause before the Father's throne of justice (Job 5:8). We have a faithful redeeming, lifeproviding Advocate (ψ<sup>119</sup>154 cf. Mic. 7:9; 1<sup>st</sup> Jn. 2:1).
- 5. The nearness from Qoph is contrasted with the farness of salvation for the wicked in Resh ( $\psi^{119}155$ ). Salvation ought to be near, but to the wicked it is far (Ps. 73:27,28; Eph. 2:13,17).
- 6. The Psalmist anticipates abundant-life revival as an application of God's tender mercy compassion (שְׁ<sup>119</sup>156).
  רְחֵמִים rach<sup>a</sup>miym <sup>#7356</sup> is so often II to הַמָּמִים chesed <sup>#2617</sup> that a survey of those passages is remarkably edifying (Ps. 25:6; 40:12; 51:3; 69:17; 103:4; 145:9; Jer. 16:5; Lam. 3:22; Hos. 2:21).
- 7. Persecutors and adversaries may be plentiful, but they are not the objects for our struggle ( $\psi^{119}157$  cf. Ps. 23:5; Eph. 6:12).
- Fear and Loathing is a Biblical practice (ψ<sup>119</sup>158 cf. Lev. 20:23; Ps. 95:10; 139:21-22; Ezek. 6:9; 20:43; 36:31).
- 9. A faithful believer is worthy of heavenly consideration ( $\psi^{119}159$  cf. Job 1:8; 2:3).
- 10. God's absolute eternal Word is absolute Truth  $(\psi^{119}160 \text{ cf. v.89}; \text{Prov. 22:21};$ 30:5; Isa. 40:8; Jn. 17:17).

## **Austin Bible Church**