You have dealt well with Your servant, O Lord, according to Your word.

Teach me good discernment and knowledge, for I believe in Your commandments.

Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.

You are good and do good; teach me Your statutes.

The arrogant have forged a lie against me; with all my heart I will observe Your precepts.

It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes.

The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

The believer under God’s Word can appreciate the value of forgiveness & affliction, and the infinite value of God’s Word.

1. The Teth is a snake, and the believer who endures angelic conflict will appreciate the grace that sees him through it.

2. This strophe contains six references to what is good (ψ11965,66,68x2,71,72). Tobiah provides us with our proper name word study for this strophe.

3. The Lord’s dealings with believers are always good, and always in conformity to His revealed Word (ψ11965 cf. Ps. 138:6; 145:7,9; Matt. 19:17).

4. The believer who is teachable is the believer who trusts in God’s commandments (ψ11966 cf. Ps. 22:9-10; Prov. 2:1-2; Neh. 9:13-17).

5. Prior to angelic conflict affliction, the ψ119 Psalmist was prone to wandering (ψ11967 cf. Prov. 1:32-33).

6. Believers who want to “be” good and “do” good should learn directly from the God who is good and does good (ψ11968 cf. Num. 10:29,32; Deut. 6:18-25; Lk. 6:35).

7. The ψ119 Psalmist spells out his angelic conflict in the second half of this strophe (ψ11969-72).


b. The gross fatness of the arrogant is a reflection of their departure from God’s Word (ψ11970 cf. Deut. 32:15; Ps. 73:7).

c. Worked together for good as a means of instruction (ψ11971 cf. Deut. 8:16; Gen. 50:20; Rom. 8:28).

d. Victory is priceless (ψ11972 cf. Ps. 19:10-14; Prov. 8:10-11).