

י

73 Your hands made me and fashioned me;  
Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.  
74 May those who fear You see me and be glad,  
Because I wait for Your word.  
75 I know, O Lord, that Your judgments are righteous,  
And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.  
76 O may Your lovingkindness comfort me,  
According to Your word to Your servant.  
77 May Your compassion come to me that I may live,  
For Your law is my delight.  
78 May the arrogant be ashamed, for they subvert me with a lie;  
But I shall meditate on Your precepts.  
79 May those who fear You turn to me,  
Even those who know Your testimonies.  
80 May my heart be blameless in Your statutes,  
So that I will not be ashamed.

73 יְדִיָּךְ עָשׂוּנִי וַיְכַוְנֵנוּנִי חֲבִינֵנִי וְאֶלְמְדָה מִצְוֹתֶיךָ :  
74 יִרְאֶיךָ יִרְאֹנִי וַיִּשְׂמְחוּ כִּי לְדַבְרֶךָ יִחַלְתִּי :  
75 יִדְעֵתִי יְהוָה כִּי־צָדִק מִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ וְאִמוּנָה עֲנִיתָנִי :  
76 יְהִי־נָא חֶסֶדְךָ לְנַחֲמֵנִי כְּאִמְרַתְּךָ לְעַבְדְּךָ :  
77 יִבְאֹנִי רַחֲמֶיךָ וְאֶחֱיָה כִּי־תוֹרַתְךָ שִׁעֲשָׁעֵי :  
78 יִבְשׂוּ זְדִים כִּי־שָׁקַר עֲוֹתוֹנִי אֲנִי אֲשִׁיחַ בְּפִקּוּדֶיךָ :  
79 יִשׁוּבוּ לִי יִרְאֶיךָ וַיִּדְעוּ עֲדָתֶיךָ :  
80 יְהִי־לִבִּי תָמִים בְּחִנְיֶךָ לְמַעַן לֹא אֶבּוֹשׁ :

י: God’s Word places us in the proper Creator/creature perspective.

1. The Yod is a hand, and the hand of the Lord is a joy to the believer under affliction.
2. The  $\psi^{119}$  Psalmist finds comfort in being made and fashioned by the Lord ( $\psi^{11973}$  cf. Ps. 139:14-16). He finds a greater comfort in the ongoing (on-growing) work of spiritual maturity (Ps. 138:8; Phil. 1:6; 2:13; 1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 5:10).
3. Companionship is also an obligation for ministry to our companions in the Lord ( $\psi^{11974}$ ). The Psalmist knows that his own example will be gladness for his fellows (cf. Ps. 34) as they go together to the house of prayer (Isa. 56:7).
4. Our varied circumstances and details of life do not manifest any varied standards or capriciousness on God’s part. God remains righteous and faithful for all eternity ( $\psi^{11975}$  cf. Gen. 18:25; Ps. 145:17; Jer. 29:11).
5. Our varied circumstances and details of life provide God with the opportunity to express his lovingkindness and comfort in powerful ways ( $\psi^{11976}$ ). The parallel jussive (v.80) stresses that this is the means for becoming blameless (cf. Gen. 6:9; 17:1; Job 1:1,8; 2:3; Ps. 18:23,25,30,32; Ezek. 28:15).
6. The second-half of Yod celebrates how God’s compassion empowers a spiritual life without shame ( $\psi^{11977-80}$  cf. Ps. 6:10; 25:3; 31:17; 35:26; 40:14,15; 69:6; 70:2,3; 71:13; 132:18; Jer. 20:11).
7. The double use of shame gives us either Ish-Bosheth or Mephibosheth for proper-name word studies for this strophe.