

Psalm 119:1-8 || ABCs of Grace with Dave Garrett

First Baptist Church, Newbury Park, CA – June 21, 1981

Enjoy this fill-in-the-blank outline as you _____ to the message.

1. Blamelessness is described as the attitude of the h_____.

2. The action tied to a blameless heart is to w_____ in the will of the Lord.

3. The third and fourth qualities mentioned in verse 2 are to k_____ and s_____.

4. The Hebrew word for iniquity means d_____.

5. The “distorter” in our soul is another term for the f_____.

6. In Scripture, the old sin nature is also called the o_____ m_____.

7. The old sin nature tells us that “Blessed are the p_____.”

8. The disorder in your soul will give you messages that are the opposite of G_____’s message.

9. Ezra encourages the people by saying the word t_____ is emphasized in the Hebrew text.

10. Ezra warns against becoming like the C_____ during the journey from Jerusalem to Babylon.

11. In his prayer, Ezra says, “Oh that my ways were directed to keep thy s_____.”

12. The shame Ezra refers to is connected with the lack of f_____ that caused Israel’s defeat.

13. A significant modern-day defeat mentioned is the issue of d_____.

14. Ezra speaks of the b_____ that comes from walking in the law of the Lord and seeking Him with the whole heart.

15. The old sin nature is described as the d_____ of the soul.

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16. The old sin nature often contradicts God's message, saying, "Blessed are the p_____."

17. Ezra emphasizes that God alone has commanded us to keep His precepts d_____.

18. The people Ezra was addressing were facing a temptation to join with the C_____.

19. Ezra turned the psalm into a personal p_____ for his own life.

20. Ezra's prayer in verse 5 reveals his desire to keep God's s_____.

21. The phrase "to keep thy statutes" shows Ezra's desire to avoid bringing s_____ to God's name.

22. When Ezra speaks of defeat, he references the d_____ of Israel.

23. Ezra connects shame with a lack of f_____ in God.

24. The "old sin nature" is often referred to in Scripture as the o_____ m_____.

25. Ezra warns the people about the temptation to follow the w_____ of the Chaldeans instead of God's law.

26. Ezra warns against letting the old sin nature distort our understanding of G_____ 's word.

27. In seeking God's blessing, Ezra emphasizes the importance of keeping His p_____.

28. Ministries often develop out of personal d_____ and sharing the pathway of healing with others.

29. Ezra concludes with the assurance that despite our failures, God will not f_____ us utterly.

30. The Hebrew letter A_____ in Psalm 119 symbolizes leadership and the beginning of wisdom, connecting to the foundational teachings in the psalm.

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Answer Key:

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|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Heart | 11. Statutes | 21. Shame |
| 2. Walk | 12. Faith | 22. Defeat |
| 3. Keep, Seek | 13. Divorce | 23. Faith |
| 4. Distortion | 14. Blessing | 24. Old Man |
| 5. Flesh | 15. Disorder | 25. Ways |
| 6. Old Man | 16. Proud | 26. God's |
| 7. Proud | 17. Diligently | 27. Precepts |
| 8. God's | 18. Chaldeans | 28. Defeat |
| 9. Thou | 19. Prayer | 29. Forsake |
| 10. Chaldeans | 20. Statutes | 30. Aleph |

Devotional - Psalm 119:1-8

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Day 1: The Blessings of Walking in God's Law

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:1-2

Focus Verses:

**"Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.
Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart."**

Meditation:

- Reflect on the meaning of "blessed" in these verses. What does it mean to be "blameless" and to "walk according to the law of the Lord"?

- Consider how these verses speak to the idea of a wholehearted pursuit of God. Are there areas in your life where you are not seeking God with all your heart?

Application:

- Write down areas in your life where you feel you could be more "blameless" or where you could more fully walk according to God's law.

- Spend time in prayer, asking God to help you align your life more closely with His statutes and to seek Him with a whole heart.

Dwell Deeply:

- Take a few moments to sit quietly before God, inviting Him to reveal any areas where you need to grow in your walk with Him. Commit these areas to God and ask for His guidance and strength.

Devotional - Psalm 119:1-8

Day 2: The Struggle with Shame and Defeat

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:3-6

Focus Verses:

"They do no wrong but follow his ways. You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed. Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees! Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands."

Meditation:

- Reflect on the psalmist's longing for steadfastness in obeying God's decrees. How does this relate to your own experiences of struggling with shame and defeat?

- Think about times when you have felt ashamed or defeated in your spiritual walk. How does this passage speak to those experiences?

Application:

- Identify a recent time when you felt spiritual defeat or shame. How did that affect your relationship with God?

- Write a prayer, asking God to help you overcome feelings of shame and to strengthen your resolve to follow His commands more faithfully.

Dwell Deeply:

- Meditate on the idea that God has not forsaken you, even in moments of shame and defeat. Consider how God might be using these experiences to draw you closer to Him and to teach you deeper obedience.

Devotional - Psalm 119:1-8

Day 3: Moving from Shame to Praise

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:7-8

Focus Verses:

"I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws. I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me."

Meditation:

- Reflect on the transition in these verses from a cry for help to a declaration of praise. How does the psalmist move from concern about being forsaken to a place of praise?

- Consider the role of learning and obedience in cultivating an "upright heart" that is able to praise God even in difficult times.

Application:

- Think about an area in your life where you can turn from shame to praise. How can you begin to praise God in the midst of challenges?

- Commit to a specific act of obedience this week that reflects your desire to follow God's decrees more closely.

Dwell Deeply:

- Spend time in worship today, focusing on God's faithfulness and the ways He has been with you through times of shame and defeat. Let your heart be filled with gratitude and praise as you consider His steadfast love and guidance.

Conclusion:

As you complete this 3-day study, remember that Psalm 119:1-8 is just the beginning of a long and rich psalm dedicated to the beauty and power of God's Word. Continue to meditate on these verses and let them shape your walk with the Lord. Whether you are struggling with shame, seeking to walk blamelessly, or learning to praise God in all circumstances, know that He is with you, guiding you with His Word every step of the way.