

Psalm 119:169-176

Taw

***Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
give me understanding according to your word!***

***Let my plea come before you;
deliver me according to your word.***

***My lips will pour forth praise,
for you teach me your statutes.***

***My tongue will sing of your word,
for all your commandments are right.***

***Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.***

***I long for your salvation, O LORD,
and your law is my delight.***

***Let my soul live and praise you,
and let your rules help me.***

***I have gone astray like a lost sheep;
seek your servant,
for I do not forget your commandments.***

The psalmist desired grace and strength to lift up his prayers, and that the Lord would receive and notice them. He desired to know more of God in Christ; to know more of the doctrines of the word, and the duties of religion. He had a deep sense of unworthiness, and holy fear that his prayer should not come before God; Lord, what I pray for is, what thou hast promised. We have learned nothing to purpose, if we have not learned to praise God. We should always make the word of God the rule of our discourse, so as never to transgress it by sinful speaking, or sinful silence. His own hands are not sufficient, nor can any creature lend him help; therefore he looks up to God, that the hand that had made him may help him. He had made religion his deliberate choice. There is an eternal salvation all the saints long for, and therefore they pray that God would help their way to it. Let thy judgments help me; let all ordinances and all providences, (both are God's judgments,) further me in glorifying God; let them help me for that work. He often looks back with shame and gratitude to his lost estate. He still prays for the tender care of Him who purchased his flock with his own blood, that he may receive from him the gift of eternal life. Seek me, that is, Find me; for God never seeks in vain. Turn me, and I shall be turned. Let this psalm be a touchstone by which to try our hearts, and our lives. Do our hearts, cleansed in Christ's blood, make these prayers, resolutions and confessions our own? Is God's word the standard of our faith, and the law of our practice? Do we use it as pleas with Christ for what we need? Happy those who live in such delightful exercises. - *Matthew Henry, MHCC*