

Evening Sermon Outline – September 24, 2017
“God’s Eternal, Always Relevant, Always Encouraging
Word” Psalm 119:89-96

I. *God’s Word is eternal, forever, settled –*

LAMED. Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.⁹⁰ Your faithfulness endures to all generations; ... (Psalm 119:89-90a NKJ)

1. *His word is “Forever” -*

It is compared in other Scripture to the changing, temporary ways of man –

having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,²⁴ because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,²⁵ But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you. (1 Peter 1:23-25 NKJ)

A. *Flesh is grass, the glory of man the flower of the grass, these are extremely temporary things –*

B. *Man’s word is not something we can count on –*

2. *God’s faithfulness endures –*

**“Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;...”
Thomas Chisholm**

God’s faithfulness endures to all generations, meaning what was written in Genesis, applies to our world TODAY!

3. *God’s Word is seen as powerful and settled even in His sustaining of some earthly things –*

You established the earth, and it abides.⁹¹ They continue this day according to Your ordinances, For all are Your servants. (Psalm 119:90b-91 NKJ)

A. *Our earth is not crumbling and disintegrating in the universe, it is not pulled helplessly toward the sun, it is not allowed to drift away from the Sun, its situation is under God’s control –*
... "For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, And He has set the world upon them. (1 Samuel 2:8 NKJ)

He shakes the earth out of its place, And its pillars tremble;⁷ He commands the sun, and it does not rise; He seals off the stars;⁸ He alone spreads out the heavens, And treads on the waves of the sea;⁹ He made the Bear, Orion, and the Pleiades, And the chambers of the south;¹⁰ He does great things past finding out, Yes, wonders without number. (Job 9:6-10 NKJ)

If He withholds the waters, they dry up; If He sends them out, they overwhelm the earth. (Job 12:15 NKJ)

He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.⁸ He binds up the water in His thick clouds, Yet the clouds are not broken under it.⁹ He covers the face of His throne, And spreads His cloud over it.¹⁰ He drew a circular horizon on the face of the waters, At the boundary of light and darkness.¹¹ The pillars of heaven tremble, And are astonished at His rebuke.¹² He stirs up the sea with His power, And by His understanding He breaks up the storm.¹³ By His Spirit He adorned the heavens; His hand pierced the fleeing serpent.¹⁴ Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, And how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?" (Job 26:7-14 NKJ)

B. *His control over the earth His promise about the flood and stability of the seasons –*

And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.²² "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease." (Genesis 8:21-22 NKJ)

This does not mean God would not bring judgments through weather, but the promise is relative stability –

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,*

Arnold A. Brevick

Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

C. *God's servants -For all are Your servants. (Psalm 119:91 NKJ)*

Then His disciples came to *Him* and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" ²⁶ But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷ So the men marveled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" (Matthew 8:25-27 NKJ)

II. *This knowledge of God's settled Word and faithfulness is what will carry us through the difficult days –*

Unless Your law had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction. ⁹³ *I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have given me life.* ⁹⁴ *I am Yours, save me; For I have sought Your precepts.* ⁹⁵ *The wicked wait for me to destroy me, But I will consider Your testimonies. (Psalm 119:92-95 NKJ)*

1. *The Psalmist's delight in God's law, kept him from perishing in his affliction –*

How does this work? How does God's Word / Law help us through affliction?

A. *God's Word helps us to see beyond our afflictions – For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, (2 Cor. 4:17 NKJ)*

B. *God's Word teaches us that our afflictions have a glorious purpose –*

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (Rom. 8:28-29 NKJ)

2. *God's Word / precepts give us LIFE –*
. ⁹³ I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have given me life.

KJV **Psalm 119:93** I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.

NAS **Psalm 119:93** I will never forget Thy precepts, For by them Thou hast revived me.

Life here means moving life, active life, energetic life, fruitful, productive life –

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. (Psalm 1:2 NKJ)

He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper. (Psalm 1:3 NKJ)

III. *God's commandments are limitless in their power and perfection –*

GWN **Psalm 119:96** I have seen a limit to everything else, *but* your commandments have no limit.

KJV **Psalm 119:96** I have seen an end of all perfection: *but* thy commandment is exceeding broad.

Verse 96.—“I have seen an end of all perfection.” Poor perfection which one sees an end of! Yet such are all those things in this world which pass for perfections. David in his time had seen Goliath, the strongest, overcome; Asahel, the swiftest, overtaken; Ahithophel, the wisest, befooled; Absalom, the fairest, deformed.—*Matthew Henry.*

God's Words and Laws are perfect and beyond perfection, exceeding broad;

1. ***Read and study them***
2. ***Live by them***
3. ***Treasure them***