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| 105) Your word is a <u>lamp</u> to my feet
And a light to my path. | 109) <u>My life</u> is continually in my hand,
Yet I do not forget Your law. |
| 106) <u>I have sworn</u> and I will confirm
it, That I will keep Your
righteous ordinances. | 110) The wicked <u>have laid</u> a snare for me,
Yet I have not gone astray from Your
precepts. |
| 107) I am exceedingly <u>afflicted</u> ;
Revive me, O Lord, according
to Your word. | 111) <u>I have inherited</u> Your testimonies
forever, For they are the joy of my
heart. |
| 108) O accept the <u>freewill offerings</u>
of my mouth, O Lord, And teach
me Your ordinances. | 112) <u>I have inclined</u> my heart to perform
Your statutes forever, even to the end. |

We come now to the next letter section of the Hebrew alphabet, the letter “n.” This letter is number 14 in the Hebrew alphabet; number 14 in the English alphabet and number 13 in the Greek alphabet.

We always bring out, and this point is critical, that Psalm 119 is written in such a way that demands an elevation of the written Scriptures and the study of them in a systematic way. You learn the alphabet in a systematic way and that is the same way you learn the Word of God.

This writer had a love for the written Scriptures and he wanted to learn every bit of it. One commentator writes: “There has been no age of the world since God’s revelation has been given, no period of life, whether in youth or age, no rank of society from the lowest to the highest, no condition of life in which men have been placed, but what they have this word true. God’s word has counsel for every difficulty, comfort in every trouble, guidance in all perplexity” (*Pulpit Commentary*, Vol. 8, p. 35).

We are living in a time when the Word of God is minimized and man’s opinions are maximized. The problem with this is that man’s opinions will never meet the deep needs of anyone and man’s opinions demean God. What must always be emphasized in this world is God’s written Word.

There is nothing that will ever replace a deep, careful, accurate understanding of God’s precious Word.

Now in this section of the Psalm there is one message that comes out loud and clear:

THE ABILITY TO WALK THROUGH LIFE AND COPE WITH LIFE COMES FROM A DEEP COMMITMENT TO THE WORD OF GOD AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD.

Comfort, counsel, commitment, confidence, control and character all come from God's written Word. It stands to reason that the more we are in the Word, the more these qualities will be in our lives.

Now from this section there are seven key revelatory truths that come from these verses and all of them begin with a word that starts with the letter "I."

REVELATORY TRUTH #1 – A believer's illumination comes from God's Word. 119:105

Here is one of the most famous verses in the book of Psalms. In fact, a chorus has been written about it. This verse is probably one of the most memorized verses of the Psalms. The implications of this verse are profound.

The assumption is that life in this world is dark. In order for a believer to see his way through this life and navigate himself in proper directions, God's Word is absolutely needed.

Without God's Word lighting the way, believers do not have a chance of survival in this dark world. A believer who fails knows the Word and knows the way back, but one who does not know the Word can end up totally confused and lost in the sense he doesn't know what to do.

When one stays out of the Word, one has no idea what he is doing, thinking or where he is walking. He goes this direction and that direction and these directions have no real purpose or aim.

It is the Word of God that illumines one's life. God's Word is what lights up a life and enables one to see reality.

REVELATORY TRUTH #2 – A believer's intention must be for obeying God's Word. 119:106

The writer made a commitment to fully obey God's Word. He made a promise that he would remain dedicated to the Word of God all of his life. He would walk God's ways. If he failed, he would resolve it according to God's Word.

So when the writer actually saw the right path, he made a commitment, a solemn commitment before God that he would walk on that path. One who walks down paths spelled out in the Word of God recognizes the value of obedience.

REVELATORY TRUTH #3 – A believer's imploration is necessary to understand God's Word. 119:107-108

As we have gone through this Psalm, there is no question that the writer was afflicted. In fact, we have seen that proud and arrogant people were making life miserable for him. There were times when he was low. So in these verses the writer implores or asks God to do three things in view of the fact that he was afflicted:

(Imploration Request #1) - He asked God to revive him. **119:107b**

Revival ALWAYS comes by an intense focus on God's Word. Times of affliction, times of failure, times of sin, times of setbacks, times of difficulty, times of darkness are all great times to run to the Word of God.

It is interesting that the writer does not ask God to bring his enemies to repentance or even change his circumstances. What he asks God for is revival. A revived spirit can withstand tough times and can stand up against enemies.

(Imploration Request #2) - He asked God to accept his offerings. **119:108a**

The writer asks God to accept his freewill offerings. Freewill offerings were things that a believer gave to God freely, because he wanted to. There was no coercion or manipulation. It seems in this case, he specifically has in mind offerings he has promised to give with his mouth through prayer. The writer always wanted God to listen to what he promised. The writer wanted God to accept his praise and his prayers (Ps. 50:14; 141:2).

No matter what this writer was experiencing, he never forgot about giving his offerings. He always wanted God to accept His offerings, because when God does it means blessings.

(Imploration Request #3) - He asked God to teach him. **119:108b**

Now keep in mind that this is a man totally dedicated to the Word of God. He loved the Word of God and yet, he asks God to teach him more of it.

Now it is obvious from this verse that God is intimately involved in someone understanding His Word. No one can just pick up a Bible and figure it out on their own. There is a living dynamic involved and if one is to truly understand God's Word, one must ask God to give understanding and that is what this writer did.

REVELATORY TRUTH #4 – A believer's intimidations are conquered by the Word of God.
119:109

The Hebrew words "My life is continually in my hand" literally mean that the writer was surrounded by danger. In fact, one Hebrew scholar translates the verse "my life is in continual danger" (*NEB Bible*, p. 1053).

From a human perspective, his life was surrounded by intimidating things. He was constantly surrounded by dangerous things. In the midst of that, he did not forget God's Word. He stayed focused on the Word of God.

He may have been threatened by all kinds of things, but he never lost his focus on God's Word. When you lose sight of the Word of God, you can end up in trouble.

REVELATORY TRUTH #5 – A believer's indestructibility is due to a focus on the Word of God. 119:110

If we are faithful to the Lord, there will be many situations in life that are out to trap us. The world, the flesh and the Devil are all out to trap us. One of the most stabilizing thoughts we may have is that I have God's Word and I will not forget it or stray from it.

Wicked people and wicked powers lay snares for the believer. The key to survival is the Word of God. Don't forget God's Word and don't stray from God's Word.

REVELATORY TRUTH #6 – A believer's inheritance is the Word of God. 119:111

This is one powerful verse. The stress of this verse is not that the Word of God teaches us about our eternal inheritance; the stress here is that the Word of God is our inheritance. We literally have a wonderful, tangible inheritance right here and right now and it is the written Word of God.

The Word of God will exist forever. The people of God will exist forever and what God has given His people as an inheritance in His precious Word. Those who think lightly of God's Word need to realize just how sacred and serious the Bible actually is. Most people do not realize the magnitude of this statement. God's Word is an inheritance given to us by God. Now notice the end of **verse 11**, the Word of God is what puts joy in a heart. Miserable, sour-faced people are not people dedicated to understanding God's Word.

Real joy and freedom comes from the Word of God. Real hope comes from the Word of God. Not only is God's Word a guiding light, it is a granted inheritance.

REVELATORY TRUTH #7 – A believer's inclination is for the Word of God. 119:112

The inclination of our heart should be to know the Word and obey the Word of God forever.

The writer purposed to know and obey the Word of God to the end of his life. Notice this inclination came from his heart.

When the Word of God is giving light to a person, that person will be drawn to it. The heart will be inclined to hear it, learn it and obey it.

The heart that is not right with God will run away from God's Word. Such a heart will run to earthly things, evil things and temporal things. But a heart right with God is always leaning toward the Word of God.

We will never love God's Word, we will never meditate on God's Word and we will never consult God's Word until our hearts want to know God's Word.

A real check about God's Word is the attitude of our heart.