

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 156.

Main Point of Text: David asks God to show him the Word's brilliant light to safely guide Him through darkness.

Sermon Point: *Be guided by the Light.*

Move 1: Be guided by those trained and called to shed Christ's light on you during worship.

LC: "Although all are not to be permitted to read the word publicly to the congregation":

- Connect with 155 "especially preaching"; 158 (W. Standards index under "Preaching of the word")
- Deut. 31:9-13; Neh. 8:2-3, 7-8; 9:3-4: priests read the Law and explained it to people in assembly.
- "Three Office" view. OT priests are NT pastors (Form of Presby. Church Govt.; Rom. 15:15-16)
- 1 Tim. 5:17: give special respect to those who labor in the Word of God (ministers)
- "yet all sorts of people are bound to read it". So such translate/explain Hebrew/Greek.

Move 2: Be thankful for access to the Light by having it in your own language.

LC: "to which end, the holy scriptures are to be translated out of the original into vulgar [common] languages":

- Acts 2:1-12: Pentecost: flames over each apostle's head, preached in many languages so all understood.
- 1 Cor. 14:6-16, 24, 27-28: speaking must be able to be understood to edify the church.
- WCF 1:8

Move 3: Open God's Light in your family's rooms and hearts.

LC "yet all sorts of people are bound to read it ... with their families":

- Gen. 18:17, 19: God chooses to reveal Providence to Abraham because he disciplines family in Word.
- Psalm 78:5-7: God wants you to pass His Word on to your children and their children to know and keep
- Deut. 6:6-7: still applies: teach your children God's Word everywhere all the time

Move 4: Turn to God's Light and follow it straight into heaven.

LC: "all sorts of people are bound to read it apart by themselves ...":

- Deut. 17:19: King of Israel must be a student of the Word all his life (why Jesus is perfect King).
- Rev. 1:3: Individuals who read, hear, and keep His Word are blessed (to overcome/be rewarded).

- Isa 34:16: *Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail ... for my mouth it hath commanded ...*
- Psalm 119:18, 105:
 - Vs. 18: “behold” look/regard/gaze/catch sight of.
 - Vs. 105: “light” often used “luminary” (sun, moon, stars; Gen. 1:3); Revelation is navigation.

Conclusion:

Know from gazing: ... *in thy light shall we see light.* (Psa. 36:9)

God’s Word (by reading):

- John 17:17: will sanctify you in His truth.
- Ephesians 6:17: is the sword of the Spirit; actually, sharper than any two edged sword (Heb. 4:12)
- Ps. 17:4: keeps you out the paths of the destroyer.
- Ps. 19:7-11: converts your soul, makes you wise, rejoices your heart, enlightens your eyes; is more to be desired than fine gold, for it is sweeter than honey: you get great reward for keeping it.
- Ps. 119 (“Thy Word” statements and related verses):
 - Young men: you cleanse your ways by giving your attention to it (vs. 9)
 - Hiding it in your heart will keep you from sinning (vs. 11)
 - It enlivens you, especially when afflicted (vss. 25, 107, 154)
 - It strengthens you (vs. 28)
 - It transfers mercies and salvation to you (vss. 41, 58, 76, 81, 82)
 - It gives you an answer for those who reproach you (vs. 42)
 - Gives you hope (vs. 49)
 - Comforts and counsels you, especially in affliction (vs. 24, 50, 76):
 - How God deals well with you (vs. 65)
 - Returns you from affliction for having gone astray without it (vs. 67)
 - Gives you hope and gladness with others (vs. 74)
 - Upholds you unashamed unto the end and in the end (vs. 116)
 - Causes you to rejoice (vs. 162)
 - Gives you more understanding than your enemies, teachers, ancients (vss., 97-99, 169)
 - Delivers you from trouble (170)
 - For it keeps your feet from evil (vs. 101) by lighting your feet and path (vs. 105, 133)

Be guided by the Light.