

BLESSINGS FROM OBEYING THE WORD OF GOD

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THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

The foundation of our Christian faith is the word of God. It is life, powerful and sharper than any double-edged sword that is all penetrating, piercing and searching the real thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12).

God's words are breathed direct from His heart – useful for correcting our mistakes and training us to live God's way so that we may be shaped up for the tasks He has for us (2 Tim 3:16-17). The overall message of Psalm 119 focuses on the truth of God's word. The first nine (9) verses emphasize that God infinitely blesses us as we walk in His truth and seek Him with our whole heart, cleanses us from the shame which our sins bring, and also washes us from impurity as we take heed and obey His commands.

Blessings from obeying the word of God

1. ***It establishes our dignity and honor.*** When we consider God's commands, we will be able to preserve our lives from shame (Psalms 119:5-6).
2. ***It preserves our ways pure, insulated from the worldly influence.*** The more we get our hearts and minds soaked deeper in the word of God, the more we become less vulnerable from bad influence (Psalms 119:9-11).
3. ***It protects our minds and maintains our integrity.*** Our duty is to be faithful to God, live according to His word, and not worry about our reputation because God will take care of that (Psalms 119: 23-24).
4. ***It gives us strength and comfort in sorrow.*** As bread sustains and strengthens our physical body, the word of God gives strength to our weary soul (Psalm 119:28).
5. It gives us ***hope in time of suffering.*** God's words give us comfort, hope and courage in our suffering and a promise that our lives will be preserved (Psalms 119:49-50). The Bible has many verses about healing (Jeremiah 30:17; Exodus 15:26, 1 Peter 2:24), prayers (1 John 5:14; Mark 11:24; Matthew 21:22), trials (1 Corinthians 10:13). God's word gives us assurances of forgiveness (1 John 1:9), salvation (1 John 5:11-12), answered prayers (Jn 16:24; Mark 11:24), guidance (Proverbs 3:5-6), and of victory (1 Cor 10:13).

6. ***It leads us back to the right path when we are lost.*** Disobedience to His word creates misery but obedience gives life and order (Psalms 119:6-7).
7. ***It preserves our life from hardship and problems.*** The word of God is like safety procedures; they preserve us from harm (Psalms 119:92-93).
8. ***It makes our mind wise and smart.*** The word of God comes from the mind of God and there is no wiser than God; reading, meditating and obeying His word makes one wise (Psalms 119:98-100; Proverbs 9:10).
9. ***It enlightens our path to be brighter so we can avoid the enemy's trap.*** The word of God provides illumination to our minds and heart so that we can avoid all the snares of the devil in our lives (Psalms 119:105, 110)
10. ***It gives us joy and happiness.*** Life without God's word is meaningless and full of sorrow; nothing can give us joy and happiness than discovering our purpose and destination from the word of God (Psalm 119:111).
11. ***It gives us deliverance from bondages.*** The word of God is so powerful that it liberates people from bondage of any kind (Psalms 119:133, 153).
12. ***It gives peace and stability.*** There is no greater stability in life than living according to the word of God; and there is always peace for those who obey His word (Psalm 119:165)

Conclusion: God's blessings shall come upon us and overtake us if we diligently and carefully observe and obey His words, laws and commands. Keeping and following what God says in His word shall unlock His treasure of blessings in our lives.

Reflections: What hinders you from completely obeying God's word? In what areas do you find it most difficult to obey God's word?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, give us faith to receive Your word, understanding to know what it means and the will to put it into practice. Help us, by Your Holy Spirit, to hear Your holy word that we may be equipped for very good work. In Jesus' Name. AMEN!

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