

## **Righteousness and God's Word**

1. A great theme in [Psalm 119](#) is God's righteousness
  - a. Fourteen verses contain at least one of three Hebrew words translated as "righteous" or "righteousness"
    - i. righteous (*tsaddiq* H6662 tsad-deek´) [Ps. 119:137](#)
    - ii. righteous; right; justice; righteousness (*tsedeq* H6664 tseh´-dek) [Ps. 119:7, 62, 75, 106, 121, 123, 138, 142, 144, 160, 164, 172](#)
    - iii. righteousness (*tsedaqah* H6666 tsed-aw-kaw´) [Ps. 119:40, 142](#)
  - b. ~8% of the verses in [Psalm 119](#) use these Hebrew words
  - c. God does not waste time, words or anything else (cf. [Jn. 6:12](#))
2. Righteousness is a major theme in the Old Testament
  - a. A combined 482 times the three Hebrew words above are used throughout the Old Testament
  - b. God is telling us something as it relates to this important topic
  - c. What can we learn about righteousness from [Psalm 119](#)?
  - d. Several themes emerge as we examine these fourteen verses

## **Righteous Judgments**

1. The Psalmist plainly states that God's judgments are righteous ([Ps. 119:7, 62, 75, 106, 137, 160, 164](#))
  - a. When we judge are we using God's judgments or our own judgments? ([Mt. 7:1-5](#); [Jn. 7:24](#))
    - i. Prejudice is not proper judgment! ([Jm. 2:1-9](#))
  - b. We are to practice judgment and justice ([Ps. 119:121](#))
    - i. justice (*tsedeq* H6664 tseh´-dek) the quality of conforming to law; conformity to truth, fact, or reason
2. Recall that nine synonyms are used for God's Word in [Psalm 119](#)
  - a. Law; Testimonies; Judgments; Statutes; God's Word(s); Precepts; Commandments; Promise; Way(s)
  - b. The Psalmist is declaring God's Word as righteous
3. God's righteous judgments make God:
  - a. Worthy of praise ([Ps. 119:7, 164](#))
    - i. praise = to confess, praise, give thanks ([Ps. 119:7](#))
    - ii. praise = to praise, celebrate, glory, sing (praise), boast ([Ps. 119:164](#))
  - b. Worthy of thanksgiving ([Ps. 119:62](#))
    - i. Can't sleep? Let's pray to God and thank Him for His righteous judgments!

- ii. “In the 17th Century (1601-1700), getting up in the middle of the night was normal. People slept in two segments divided by an hour or two of alertness (time for reading, praying, intimacy, or socializing with others).” (Source: <https://health.clevelandclinic.org/22-facts-about-sleep-that-will-surprise-you-infographic/>)
4. God’s righteous judgments:
- a. Can be known ([Ps. 119:75](#); [Jn. 8:32](#); [2 Jn. 1-2](#))
  - b. Must be kept ([Ps. 119:106](#); [Jn. 14:15](#), [15:14](#))
  - c. Endure forever ([Ps. 119:160](#); [Mt. 24:35](#); [1 Pt. 1:23-25](#))
  - d. Come from His righteousness ([Ps. 119:137](#))
    - i. upright = straightforward, just
    - ii. Job was described with this word ([Job 1:1](#))

### Righteous Testimonies

- 1. Another of the synonyms for God’s Word, as found in [Psalm 119](#), is testimonies
  - a. Testimonies indicate God’s Law and serve as a witness to an agreement or covenant
- 2. God’s testimonies are:
  - a. Righteous and very faithful ([Ps. 119:138](#))
    - i. faithful = firm, steadfast, trustworthy
    - ii. God’s Word can and must be trusted
    - iii. God is faithful to His promises and so must we be
  - b. Everlasting ([Ps. 119:144](#))
    - i. God’s righteousness is everlasting ([Ps. 119:142](#))

### Conclusion

- 1. God’s righteousness can make us alive ([Ps. 119:40](#))
  - a. Do I long after God’s precepts?
  - b. Do I desire salvation and the Word of righteousness intensely? ([Ps. 119:123](#))
    - i. fail = waste away, be exhausted
- 2. Let us speak God’s Word to each other and others ([Ps. 119:172](#))
  - a. With so much unrighteousness and injustice in the world, we want God’s Word to prevail in righteousness!
  - b. Christ will judge the world in righteousness thus the need to repent and conform to His standard ([Acts 17:30-31](#); cf. [Jn. 12:48](#); [Rev. 20:11-15](#))