**“OH HOW SWEET IT IS!”**

**PSALM 119:97-128**

**Pastor Keith E. Gephart**

INTRODUCTION

Bob Prince, former baseball announcer for my hometown team, “Oh, how sweet it is!” But he did not know what is truly sweet! God’s words are sweet; sweet to my taste. In another place David states, “O taste and see that the LORD is good” (Ps. 34:8). Have you tasted of His sweetness?

1. YOUR LAW IS MY MEDITATION ALL THE DAY; O HOW I LOVE IT! (97-104)
2. They make me wiser, give me more insight, and increase my understanding (98-100).
3. Wiser than my enemies.
4. More insight than my teachers.
5. Understand more than the aged.
6. They are ever mine, my meditation, and what I keep.
7. They keep me on the right path (101-102)
8. Off the evil way that I may keep His word (101)
9. I do not turn aside, for I have Yahweh as my Teacher (102).
10. They are sweeter than honey to my palate and mouth (103).
11. I gain understanding from His precepts, and “hate every false way.” (104)
12. YOUR TESTIMONIES ARE THE JOY OF MY HEART! (105-112)
13. They give me light for my way (105)
14. A lamp for my foot—especially at night.
15. A light for my path—especially during the day.
16. They are the object of my solemn oath (106)
17. I will confirm that oath.
18. I will keep Yahweh’s righteous judgments.
19. They enable me to overcome affliction (107, 109, 110)
20. I am **greatly** afflicted and need revival (107).
21. My life is continually in my hand—facing imminent danger and death (109).
22. The wicked have laid a snare for me (110).
23. Yet I don’t forget Your law, and have not gone astray from your precepts (109, 110).
24. I am able to offer freewill offerings (108).
25. The Lord will accept them from my mouth.
26. The Lord will teach me.
27. I have a permanent inheritance in Yahweh’s testimonies (111).
28. I have inclined my heart to perform God’s testimonies—forever, to the end (112).
29. YOUR JUDGMENTS PUT ME IN AWE! (113-120)
30. Yahweh has rejected/made light of all who wander from His statutes (118).
* Their deceitfulness deceives themselves and is useless.
1. Yahweh has removed the wicked (119).
2. All the wicked on the earth are subject to his judgment of justice.
3. They are like dross that is cast away—nothing worth preserving from the precious metal refined.
4. Yahweh produces and condones “hatred” of the evil ones by His people (113).
5. The ungodly are “double-minded”—adhering to the ways of this world, not God’s ways.
6. The godly “love” Yahweh’s law.
7. The flesh of the godly “bristles”—hair standing on end—over God’s judgments (120).
8. The “dread” of the mighty power of God against whom no one can stand, and all must draw back in reverential awe.
9. The godly “fear” Yahweh’s judgments—cf. Sodom, Egypt, Canaan, etc.
10. Leave me, evil-doers—that I may keep His commands without your distraction (115).
11. Yahweh will protect me (114, 116,117)
12. He is both my hiding place of security, and my shield of protection (114)
	* In Him I have confident hope and expectation
13. He will sustain me according to His word of promise (116).
	* I will live.
	* I will not be ashamed of my hope.
14. He will uphold me (117).
	* I will be saved/safe.
	* I will have careful and continual regard for His statutes.
15. YOUR COMMANDMENTS ARE WORTH MORE THAN GOLD, EVEN FINE GOLD! (121-128)
16. I am Your servant (125)
17. I esteem right all Your precepts concerning everything (128a)
18. I hate every evil way (128b).
19. I love your commandments (127a).
20. I need more understanding that I may know Your testimonies (125).
21. I need you to teach me your statutes (124).
22. I have practiced justice and righteousness (121).
23. I need protection while the wicked need judgment
24. Don’t leave me to my oppressors (121b).
25. Don’t let the arrogant oppress me (122b).
26. Let my longing eyes that “come to an end” see your salvation/deliverance and the fulfillment of Your word/promise (123).
27. Deal with me according to Your loyal-love (124).
28. Be a surety for me for good—guaranteeing my safety and protection (122).
29. It is time for Yahweh to Act—**they have broken Your law** (126).

CONCLUSION

What a combination: His law is my constant meditation; **I Love it!**

 His testimonies are the **Joy of my heart!**

 His Judgments **put me in awe**!

 His commandments are **worth more than gold—even fine gold**!

What is there that I do not have in the Lord?

Therefore, I must make His word and His person my constant meditation.