

AFTER BITING THE DUST: THE POWER TO KEEP GOING Ps. 119:49-64

There are two concepts in these 2 stanzas: _____ (zayin) and a fence/boundaries (cheth). We need God's power, and we need clear boundaries.

I. POWER

A. v. 49, 50, 58 Keep your _____ in Christ – cling to rope called hope. You do that by v. 50, 58 – remember the promises.

Faith deals with the _____; hope deals with the largeness of life itself. Faith centers on specific and definite objects; hope centers on _____. When the devil wants to attack your faith, he begins by attacking your hope.

1. Hope is faith directed toward the _____. You can define hope as "a strong confidence that God is going to do good to us in the future".

2. Hope is confidence in God's help. It is the trusting expectation that God will keep His Word. "Your Promise" in v. 50, 58

3. Hope is _____-centered. Col. 1:27 - Christ in you, the hope of glory; I Tim. 1:1 - Christ, who is our hope.

4. Hope is demonstrated by stability, steadfastness, and certainty. Your hope determines your morale, enthusiasm, and vision. It holds us steady in trials.

B. v. 51, 60 – Stay obedient. (v. 16 – "I will not neglect Your Word.")

C. v. 50, 52, 61 – Run to the Scriptures

D. v. 53 – Be honest about your _____. Don't spiritualize "but it'll be good/Rom. 8:28" – Yes, we trust God, but we must also honestly acknowledge the pain; don't minimize it "it was nothing/ I'm fine"

E. v. 55, 62 -When you can't sleep, _____ and praise! V. 54 – your decrees - your Word – is the theme of my song!!

II. BOUNDARIES (cheth) – GOD IS MY PORTION – ALL I _____

A. v. 57 – "portion" – An absolute dependence on God.

B. v. 63 – Stay connected with fellow believers and those who encourage you.

C. Stay obedient – the bottom line of “how to keep going” in Christian life
v. 57 – I have promised

v. 59 – I have considered my ways – how I _____ my life.

Deliberation – stop and think

Destination – my ways - _____ picture – where am I headed?

Determination – turned my feet = obey

Decision – to your statutes – _____ ways

v. 60 – I will hasten and not delay. Delayed obedience is disobedience.

v. 61 – I will not _____ – even in hardship

v. 62 – I will give you _____

D. v. 64 - Experience God’s _____ - CHESED - Unbounded lovingkindness; love; mercy; compassion; goodness.

v. 64 “Lord, teach me Your decrees/Your Word .” This is the prayer to pray regularly – “Lord, teach me”.

