

We'll be limiting ourselves this morning to the specific Hebrew family of words used in v. 67 and 71. There are 5 other verses that use those words: 50, 75, 92, 107, 153.

Definition: to _____, squeeze, be heavy, oppress, depress. It's a general word that means any difficult or painful circumstance. One of the meanings of the word afflicted is to _____, to be bowed down. So it's any of those humbling times of life – when you thought you could handle it, but have learned you can't!

The Hebrew letter Teth (pronounced TATE) – is very interesting – and especially in light of the discussion of suffering. It can mean both _____ and _____. It looks upside down.

I. SUFFERING CAN BE BENEFICIAL – v. 66, 67, 71

A. v. 67 - It can bring correction.

B. v. 66,71 It can be a _____ experience.

1) v. 66 - _____ – comes from the word YADA which means to know personally.

2) v. 66 - Good judgment – good _____, good discernment, perception. It can help you discover your priorities.

3) v. 71 - God's decrees – to be engraved on our hearts – God's Word becomes _____ - not just theory

II. LET GOD'S WORD _____ TO YOU - V. 50, 67, 71, 92, 107, 153

⁵⁰ My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life.

⁶⁷ Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.

⁷¹ It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.

When we go through suffering, God's Word is engraved on our hearts.

⁹² If your law (how to live) had not been my delight, I would have perished (wondered away, given up) in my affliction. God's Word keeps you _____.

¹⁰⁷ I have suffered much; preserve (refresh, revive) my life, Lord, according to your word.

¹⁵³ Look on my suffering and deliver me, for I have not forgotten your law.

III. HOLD ON TO GOD'S CHARACTER – v. 65, 68, 75

v. 65 You have dealt well with your servant, O Lord, according to your word.

In the process of talking about his affliction, the Psalmist also focuses repeatedly on the word “ _____ ”!

⁶⁸ You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.

This is praise for who God _____ (You are good), and praise for what God _____ (and do good).

⁷⁵ I know, Lord, that your laws (judgments/decisions/verdicts) are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

Someone said that as you study this section, you learn about the growth of faith during times of suffering:

V. 67 - First, there is faith that _____: “Now I obey your Word.”

V. 71 - Second, there is faith that affirms: “It is good for me to be afflicted.”

V. 75 -Third, there is faith that glorifies: “In faithfulness you afflicted me.”

CONCL: II Cor. 1:4 - who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

v. 68 – God is good _____ the time!

