

Theme: Psalm 119 is a song of praise about God's boundless Word, which brings boundless blessings to those who love it.

I. Intro – Boundless Skies, Land, Water

- A. The feeling of space when going to sea
- B. The feeling of space when going out West
- C. The skies, land, and water seem boundless!
- D. The Psalmist uses that metaphor for God's Word

II. God's Boundless Word

- A. The psalmist - God's Word is boundless (v96)
 - 1. Everything else is limited (v96)
 - 2. God's word is broad - boundless (v96)
- B. Same point is made in Psalm 19 - another Word Psalm
 - 1. Psalm 19:4-6 - voice; sun's heat - everywhere
 - 2. Psalm 19:7ff - God's Word is like that; even greater

III. Psalm 119 - The Boundless Word of God

- A. The size of Psalm 119 - biggest Psalm
 - 1. Psalm 119 is the longest Psalm
 - 2. Biggest chapter in biggest book in Scripture
 - 3. The sheer size speaks of being boundless
- B. The structure of Psalm 119 - boundless Word
 - 1. An acrostic to the Word of God (vv1, 9)

- 2. But each letter gets 8 verses - not just one!
- 3. This gives an immense feeling of awe at Scripture
- 4. Shows Scripture applies to all of life (Mays quote)

C. The vocabulary for God's Word

- 1. There are 8 terms used for God's Word
- 2. Table with words, translations, and numbers
- 3. At least one of these occurs in 172 of 176 verses
 - a. Not in vv3; 37 (paths); v90; v122
 - b. But at least one in every other verse
- 4. List of all on web as part of outline
- 5. Rich vocabulary required for God's boundless Word
- 6. One word simply won't do!
- 7. Eight words; like eight lines per stanza/letter

D. The Psalmists boundless delight in God's Word

- 1. Delight in God's word - 9 times
- 2. Love God's word - 11 times
- 3. Examples:
 - a. v47 - delight and love commands
 - b. v16 - delight in decrees; not neglect word
 - c. v97 - I love your law; meditate all day long

IV. The Boundless Blessings of God's Word

- A. The word of God brings blessings (vv1-2)
- B. God's word protects from sin (vv9,11)
- C. God's word comforts and preserves us in suffering (v50)
 - 1. Verb for "preserve" - literally "quicken/revive"
 - 2. It is used 9 times in this Psalm!
- D. God's word gives us wisdom (vv98-110)
- E. God's Word gives us guidance for life (v105)
- F. God's word shapes our heart, worldview (v136)
- G. God's word grants peace to those who love it (v165)
- H. God word restores us when we stray (v176)

V. Applying the Word

- A. Do we see that God's Word is boundless?
 - 1. What a great gift we have been given in Scripture!
 - 2. It covers the A-Z of life - all we really need
 - 3. It is powerful and mighty to draw us to God
 - 4. It is powerful to re-draw us when we stray
 - 5. This year - lets delight in God's boundless Word!
- B. How Firm A Foundation

Their voice goes out into **all the earth**, their words to the **ends of the world**. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, 5 which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. 6 **It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat.**
Psalms 19:4–6

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple... Psalms 19:7ff

Taken together, this harvest of texts contains a profile of an understanding of the Lord's way with people and the world that is organized around torah. Torah applies to everything. (James L. Mays, quoted in J. Clinton McCann, Jr. in A Theological Introduction to the Book of Psalms, page 32.

Hebrew Word (Phonetic Sound)	NIV/ESV	# in Psalm 119
תּוֹרָה (Torah)	law	25
דְּבָר (Davar)	Word	24
מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)	NIV - laws ESV - rules	23
עֲדוּת (Edvot)	NIV - statutes ESV - testimonies	23
מִצְוָה (Mitzvah)	NIV - commands ESV - commandments	22
חֹק (Hoq)	NIV - decrees ESV - statutes	21
פְּקֻדִים (Piqqudim)	precepts	21
אִמְרָה (Imrah)	word or promise	19

I delight in your commands because I love them. Psalms 119:47

I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word. Psalms 119:16

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Psalms 119:97

Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD. 2 Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart. Psalms 119:1–2

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word....11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Ps 119:9, 11

My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life. Psalms 119:50

Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me. 99 I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. 100 I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts. Psalms 119:98–100

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalms 119:105

Streams of tears flow from my eyes, for your law is not obeyed. Psalms 119:136

Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble. Psalms 119:165

I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands. Psalms 119:176

Synonyms for God's Word in Psalm 119

תּוֹרָה (יִרְה) **law** = 25 NIV – law; ESV – law

Psa 119:1, 18, 29, 34, 44, 51, 53, 55, 61, 70, 72, 77, 85, 92, 97, 109, 113, 126, 136, 142, 150, 153, 163, 165, 174

דְּבָר (דַּבֵּר) **word, speech** = 24 NIV – word; ESV – word

Psa 119:9, 16–17, 25, 28, 42–43, 49, 57, 65, 74, 81, 89, 101, 105, 107, 114, 130, 139, 147, 160–161, 169

מִשְׁפָּט (שִׁפְט) **judgment, Mishpat** = 23 NIV – laws; ESV – rules

Psa 119:7, 13, 20, 30, 39, 43, 52, 62, 75, 84, 91, 102, 106, 108, 120–121, 132, 137, 149, 156, 160, 164, 175

עֲדוּת (עוֹד) **testimony, law, decree** = 23 NIV – statutes; ESV – testimonies

Psa 119:2, 14, 22, 24, 31, 36, 46, 59, 61, 79, 95, 99, 111, 119, 125, 129, 138, 144, 146, 152, 157, 167–168

מִצְוָה (צוּה) **commandment** = 22 NIV – commands; ESV – commandments

Psa 119:6, 10, 19, 21, 32, 35, 47–48, 60, 66, 73, 86, 96, 98, 115, 127, 131, 143, 151, 166, 172, 176

חֹק (חִקֵּק) **statute** = 21 NIV – decrees; ESV – statutes
Psa 119:5, 8, 12, 16, 23, 26, 33, 48, 54, 64, 68, 71, 80, 83, 112, 117–118, 124, 135, 145, 155, 171

פְּקוּדִים (פִּקְד) **precepts** = 21 NIV – precepts; ESV – precepts

Psa 119:4, 15, 27, 40, 45, 56, 63, 69, 78, 87, 93–94, 100, 104, 110, 128, 134, 141, 159, 168, 173

אִמְרָה (אָמַר) **word** = 19 NIV – word/promise; ESV – word/promise

Psa 119:11, 38, 41, 50, 58, 67, 76, 82, 103, 116, 123, 133, 140, 148, 154, 158, 162, 170, 172