# Psalm 119 Part IX "PE and TZADDI"

(Psa 119:129-144)

- Psa 119:129 **PE.** Thy testimonies *are* wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.
- Psa 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.
- Psa 119:131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.
- Psa 119:132 Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name.
- Psa 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.
- Psa 119:134 Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.
- Psa 119:135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.
- Psa 119:136 Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.
- Psa 119:137 **TZADDI**. Righteous *art* thou, O LORD, and upright *are* thy judgments.
- Psa 119:138 Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.
- Psa 119:139 My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.
- Psa 119:140 Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.
- Psa 119:141 I am small and despised: yet do not I forget thy precepts.
- Psa 119:142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.
- Psa 119:143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: yet thy commandments are my delights.
- Psa 119:144 The righteousness of thy testimonies *is* everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

This week we will look at the section of scripture that is centered around the letters "PE and TZADDI", the 17th and 18th letter in the Hebrew alphabet.

In this first section of the Psalm there is a type and shadow crying out to the Lord who is the only one who can complete us (Psa 127:1). The body of Christ cries out as did Christ while in his flesh so that we can go unto perfection on the third day (Heb 5:7). It is this healthy fear of God, this carefullness that comes about when our hearts are softened through repentance that we're led unto (Rom 2:4, Rom 8:14, 2Co 7:11) that is needed in order to take heed and hold fast to the words of eternal life that have been given unto us (Joh 6:68).

Rom 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

2Co 7:11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

Joh 6:68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

We see in this section of the Psalm an example, a type of God's elect who has been given a humble and contrite heart (<u>Isa\_66:2</u>) that God can work with and does work with his children by sending his word that heals (<u>Psa\_107:20</u>). The proud spirit in man must be

crushed in order for God to "order my steps in thy word" and this Psalm is very much about the praise and thanks that we come to give once the Lord judges us so we can learn of his righteousness in our own heavens (Joh 14:20, 1Jn 4:17).

Isa 66:2 For all those *things* hath mine hand made, and all those *things* have been, saith the LORD: but to this *man* will I look, *even* to *him that is* poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

Psa 107:20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Joh 14:20 At that day [1Jn 4:17] ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

The new man 8 is manifested in the lives of those who are experiencing this judgement in their lives, and the seven last plagues must come upon us in this age if we are going to enter into the temple of God (Rev\_15:8) where our perspective of who God is, and how valuable his judgements are become much clearer in our heavens as those words are tried and purified (Psa\_12:6, 2Co\_4:7, 1Pe\_1:7).

Rev 15:8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

Psa 12:6 The words of the LORD *are* pure words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

2Co 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

1Pe 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

With greater clarity of how pure God's words are as we go through fiery trials that are used to "make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*." God's children are blessed to come out on the other end of those trials reassured that "we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil"(Heb 6:19-20, 1Pe 5:10).

1Pe 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, <u>make you perfect</u>, <u>stablish</u>, <u>strengthen</u>, <u>settle</u> *you*.

Heb 6:19 Which *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

Heb 6:20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, *even* Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

What great encouragement we can receive from this section of Psalm in knowing that God

blesses us to hold fast to his words (<u>Psa\_118:27</u>) so that when the prophesied storms come that will beat against our house causing anguish, it will be through Christ and the words of eternal life He has that we will be given understanding, great delight and confidence through Christ who gives us the ability to having done all stand and rejoice in the Lord always (<u>Eph\_6:13</u>, <u>Php\_4:4</u>).

Psa 118:27 God is the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Our first verse:

## Psa 119:129 PE. Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.

God's word is likened unto treasure in several sections of proverbs, rubies specifically (Pro\_3:15, Pro\_8:11, Pro\_20:15, Pro\_31:10) reminding us that this treasure within us, our wisdom that is Christ (1Co\_1:30, 2Co\_4:7) is more valuable than anything that can be obtained in the earth and (Pro\_1:33) demonstrates the fruit that is given to those who have Christ working in their heavens in this age, the treasure of having a right relationship with God that is founded on his word, or Christ the Word (Mat\_16:18). "Thy testimonies are wonderful" because they warn us and keep us unspotted from the world and make a way for us to overcome the adversary (Psa\_19:11-12).

<u>Pro\_3:15</u> She *is* more precious than <u>rubies</u>: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

<u>Pro\_8:11</u> For wisdom *is* better than <u>rubies</u>; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

<u>Pro 20:15</u> There is gold, and a multitude of <u>rubies</u>: but the lips of knowledge *are* a precious jewel.

<u>Pro 31:10</u> Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

<u>Psa 19:11</u> <u>Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great</u> reward.

<u>Psa 19:12</u> Who can understand *his* errors? cleanse thou me from secret *faults*.

The "**therefore doth my soul keep them**" could not be kept unless the first section of this opening proverb that is addressed to the "king of Israel" is received as the admonition that it is meant to be for God's elect today who are the spiritual Israel of God (<u>Pro 1:1-32</u>, <u>Gal 6:16</u>).

## Psa 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

The gates in Proverbs 1 spoken of in verse 21 represents the heart and mind of man where "The entrance of thy words giveth light" (Pro\_1:20-22) and "giveth understanding unto the simple" (Pro\_1:4).

Pro 1:20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

Pro 1:21 She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, *saying*,

Pro 1:22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

Pro 1:4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

### Psa 119:131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.

A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels of (<u>Pro 1:5</u>) is another way of saying "I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments".

God's elect are blessed to have this hunger and thirst for righteousness which is a gift from God given to his people in this day of our visitation (Mat\_5:6, Luk\_19:42, Php\_1:29). It is because of the hunger and thirst that God gives us that we experience and recognize this day of our visitation, the day of the Lord, that fills our longing souls with his truth like rivers of living water. It is in the river of Jordon that Christ in us is baptized as we die daily and are baptized into his death symbollized by His baptism in the Jordon (Luk\_19:44, Joh\_7:37-38, Pro\_5:15-18, Mat\_3:13, Rom\_6:3)

Mat 5:6 Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Luk 19:42 Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things *which belong* unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

Php 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Luk 19:44 And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation. [inwardly God's elect experience this today Mat 24:2]

Joh 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

Joh 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (Pro 5:18)

Pro 5:15 Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. Pro 5:16 Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. [with Christ in us we will be that wisdom in the street of Pro 1:20, Rev 22:2]

Pro 5:17 Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee.

Pro 5:18 Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth (Rev 19:7).

Mat 3:13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan G2446 unto John, to be baptized of him.

#### G2446

Iordanēs

ee-or-dan'-ace

Of Hebrew origin [H3383]; the *Jordanes* (that is, *Jarden*), a river of Palestine: - Jordan.

### H3383

vardên

yar-dane'

From <u>H3381</u>; <u>a descender</u>; *Jarden*, the principal river of Palestine: - Jordan.

Eph 4:9 (Now that he <u>ascended</u>, what is it but that he also <u>descended</u> first into the lower parts of the earth?

Eph 4:10 He that **descended** is the same also that **ascended** up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Rom 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were <u>baptized into Jesus Christ</u> were baptized into his death? [we also **descend**]

Eph 2:6 And hath <u>raised us up together</u>, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: [we also **ascend**]

1Jn 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because **as he is, so are we in this world**.

The wife of our youth in (<u>Pro\_5:18</u>) **is the bride of Christ** who is making herself ready (<u>Rev\_19:7</u>) by the grace and faith of Christ (<u>Eph\_2:8</u>) as he washes the bride with God's word today (<u>Joh\_17:17</u>, <u>Eph\_5:26</u>).

Pro 5:18 Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.

Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Psa 119:132 Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name.

Psa 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

We do cry out in the night for his judgment to come upon us and "the desire of *our* soul *is* to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee" because of our being dragged to Christ (Joh 6:44).

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

"Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name" is our prayer to our Father, and is explained in these verses that apply to those who are being judged in this age (<u>Isa 26:7-9</u>, <u>Heb 5:7-8</u>).

Isa 26:7 The way of the just *is* uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just.

Isa 26:8 Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O LORD, have we waited for thee; the desire of *our* soul *is* to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee.

Isa 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments *are* in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

Heb 5:7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

That mercy "be merciful unto me" is first shown to the body of Christ (Rom 11:18-27) and results in the Lord ordering our steps in His word "Order my steps in thy word". When Christ orders our steps in his word, sin will not have dominion over us "let not any iniquity have dominion over me" (Rom 6:14, 1Co 15:55-58, Joh 8:36)

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

1Co 15:55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

1Co 15:56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

1Co 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Joh 8:36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Psa 119:134 Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.
Psa 119:135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.
Psa 119:136 Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

"The oppression of man" is true to all men, because of the oppressive realm of the flesh that is subject to a law of vanity that requires another law in our members (Rom\_8:20) if we are going to be able to overcome in this life (Rom\_7:21-25, Gal\_2:20).

Rom 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope,

Rom 8:21 Because the creature itself also **shall be delivered** from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Rom 7:21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Rom 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Rom 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Rom 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

We are not being oppressed when we are blessed to keep the law of Christ (1Jn 5:3, Rom 8:2) typified by "thy precepts" and "thy judgements" of old. Where the spirit of Christ is there is liberty and no oppression regardless of what is happening physically around us, or mentally within us (2Co 3:17). We can overcome because he who is in us is greater than Satan who is in the world (1Jn 4:4, 1Jn 2:1-2, 1Jn 2:16).

1Jn 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, **and have overcome them**: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1Jn 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

1Jn 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, **but also for the** sins of the whole world.

1Jn 2:16 **For all that is in the world**, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

God "**Make thy face to shine upon thy servant**" is what must happen to us if we are going to enter into eternal life (<u>Mat 19:17</u>). Having God's face shine upon us is a two edged sword for our flesh as we weep like Christ for those who can't yet keep his commandments (<u>Luk 19:41-44</u>) and yet we rejoice knowing that through Him we are being given victory to overcome in this age for our sakes and for their sakes "<u>and not for ours only</u>, **but also for the sins of the whole world**"[1Jn 2:2].

"Rivers of waters run down mine eyes" for the blindness of the city that we behold (that Christ beheld) as we know their judgement is yet to come and the whole world lies in sin until today "because they keep not thy law"(Luk 19:42-44, 1Jn 5:19, Php 2:15). These things must be to show us who it is that God has approved (1Co 11:19) and this will glorify our Father as he makes his strength perfect through the weak of the world who will experience that same fiery judgement that we experience first (1Pe 4:17) and yet are blessed to be called to be in that first resurrection (Rev 20:6) having been made ready to bring the rest of the world into a right relationship with our Father and Christ by delivering them from the bondage of sin that Christ has set us free from (Oba 1:21, Joh 8:36).

Psa 119:137 TZADDI. Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.

Psa 119:138 Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.

These next two verses are the start of the 18th letter of the Hebrew alphabet and are very triumphantly proclaiming at least in type and shadow what the Lord is doing within the man who has gone through or is going through judgment in this age. "**Righteous** *art* **thou**, **O LORD**, **and upright** *are* **thy judgments**" within those whose judgement you are executing at this time (<u>Isa</u> <u>26:9</u>).

The new man (8) cannot be formed within us unless we are given to see "**Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful**". The centurion soldier in his day is a shadow of the elect of God who understand that there is an order in the spiritual realm that is all working according to the counsel of his own will, and that can only be understood by God giving us the faith to believe and keep his commandments so we can enter into life and see and believe and do the work of God today (<u>Mat 8:5-13</u>, <u>Eph 1:11</u>, <u>Joh 6:28</u>).

## Psa 119:139 My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.

This prophecy of Christ is being fulfilled and demonstrated in the temple that we are (1Co 6:19) as He purifies our temple by destroying the man of sin within us by the brightness of his coming (2Th 2:8, 1Jn 3:3). That is our hope, that the hope of glory within us (Col 1:27) is zealously at work within us driving out everything that is contrary to sound doctrine, or heretical, or thinking above what is written in God's word (Tit 2:1, 1Co 4:6).

1Jn 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Tit 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

**1Co** 4:6 And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and *to* Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think *of men* above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.

If God is working with us in this age, we will be a peculiar people zealous of good works as our Lord was (<u>Joh 2:17</u>, <u>Tit 2:14-15</u>) and we will be fighting a good fight of faith (<u>1Ti 6:12</u>) as we overcome the evil within us by the goodness of God (<u>Rom 12:21</u>) who is working in us both to will and to do of his good pleasure (<u>Php 2:13</u>).

Joh 2:17 And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Tit 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

### Psa 119:140 Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.

God's word is rich like honey(<u>Psa\_119:103</u>) and it is the "**servant**" of God who Christ gives this nourishing "**very pure**" word that quickens us and helps us minister to one another (<u>Joh\_6:63</u>)

Keeping the word undefiled is what we are commanded to do so that there is "no divisons among you". By not letting that sword (Heb 4:12) depart from our house the Lord uses the word of God to judge us so we can be "perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment"(2Sa 12:10, 1CO 1:10).

2Sa 12:10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

1Co 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

"therefore thy servant loveth it" because when we are judged by that word it brings forth the peaceable fruit of righteousness that can only come from God above. God's chastening is that perfect gift from above that we need in order to be received as sons (<a href="Heb 12:11">Heb 12:11</a>, <a href="Heb 12:11">Heb 12:6</a>).

### Psa 119:141 I am small and despised: yet do not I forget thy precepts.

Like God's word we are likened unto something that is "**small and despised**" (Mar 4:31, Mat 10:22, Luk 12:32) but we are filled with hope because we "**do not I forget thy precepts**" because of the comforter that brings us into remembrance of all that we need to know in order to endure until the end (Joh 16:13, Joh 8:32, Mat 24:13).

Mar 4:31 *It is* <u>like a grain of mustard seed</u>, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth:

Mar 4:32 But when it is sown [Joh 12:24], it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge

#### under the shadow of it.

Mat 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Luk 12:32 Fear not, <u>little flock</u>; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Joh 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Mat 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

We need to therefore not despise the day of small things (Zec 4:10) and understand that God is the one who is making it possible through the gift of the holy spirit that is poured out for us through Christ (Rom\_5:5) to be his two witnesses who are showing the world that true discipleship is only made possible "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts" (Zec\_4:6).

Zec 4:10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel *with* those seven; they *are* the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

Rom 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Zec 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

### Psa 119:142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

Mans righteousness in contrast to God's has a distinct beginning and end and Christ spoke to his disiples of that righteousness that we must exceed or we will not inherit the kingdom of God. (Mat\_5:20).

Mat 5:20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

This is, was, and will be statement of Christ is one that we pray the Lord will give us to constantly evaluate in our heavens to be sure that we are not reprobates (<u>2Co\_13:5</u>) and God willing we will be found with the righteousness of Christ abiding in us until the end of this life (<u>Php\_3:7-14</u>, <u>Php\_1:6</u>, <u>Php\_3:3</u>). We see in these verses that a reprobate by God's definition is someone who is found having their "<u>own righteousness</u>, which is of the law"

2Co 13:5 Examine <u>yourselves</u>, whether ye be in the faith; prove <u>your own selves</u>. Know ye not <u>your own selves</u>, how that Jesus Christ is in you, <u>except ye be reprobates</u>?

Php 3:7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

Php 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

Php 3:9 And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness**, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: [Gal 2:20]

Php 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

Php 3:11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Php 3:12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Php 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and **reaching forth** unto those things which are before.

Php 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Psa 119:143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: yet thy commandments are my delights.

Psa 119:144 The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

We need not fear what man can do to our flesh (Mat 10:28) if we understand that we are not wrestling against flesh and blood "but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph 6:12).

Anguish takes hold of us when we are overcome by evil and do not cast our cares upon the Lord who cares for us and who is "far above" all those powers and principalities that we wrestle with through the night (1Pe 5:7-8, Eph 1:21). And so we beseech our Lord to keep us "**reaching forth** unto those things which are before" and to help us not grow weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap if we faint not (Gal 6:9-10, 1Ti 6:12).

1Pe 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Gal 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Gal 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

1Ti 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

The glory that God has set before is going to be preceded by a light affliction (2Co\_4:17) and the present suffering that we go through is not worthy to be compared to the glory that God has been set before us (Rom\_8:17-18).

God provides the spiritual vision we need in the body of Christ so that our hearts don't fail, just as he did through the first martyr in the church Steven (Pro\_29:18, Act\_7:55-56).

Pro 29:18 Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but <u>he that keepeth the law</u>, happy is he.

Act 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, <u>looked up **stedfastly** into heaven</u>, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

Act 7:56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God

That vision for Steven came as a result of obeying the commandments of God "he that keepeth the law" and holding fast with a stedfast gaze on the joy that had been set before him (Php 3:8, Heb 11:26).

Christ was created to be that strength in our life through whom we can endure all things as he continues to help us keep under ourselves and endure until the end together as one body. That is the hope filled message of the gospel that is given to very few to hold fast to in this life ( $\underline{\text{Heb}}$  12:1-2 ,  $\underline{\text{1Co}}$  9:27 ,  $\underline{\text{Php}}$  4:13) and if God will grant us to be found with the righteousness of Christ and his strength through whom we can endure all things we "**shall live**" by being given power to drink the cup and lose our life in this age ( $\underline{\text{Mar}}$  10:39).

"The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting" are words that are a shadow of the truth that Christ has the words of eternal life, and can give us the understanding that we need, that comes through obedience, that we can learn by the things that we suffer in this life so that we "shall live" (Heb\_5:8, 1Jn\_4:17)

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, <u>yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;</u> Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation <u>unto all them that obey him;</u>

1Jn 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1Jn 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.