

Song of God's Precepts

August 17, 2025

Psalms 119:11



Psalms 107-150 are correlated to the fifth book of the Pentateuch, Deuteronomy. The theme is covenant renewal or second giving of the law. The covenant is based on God's steadfast love that produces precepts that guide us to walk in obedient love towards Him.

Precept: A general rule intended to regulate behavior or thought.

CHESED (steadfast love) is mentioned 196 times in the Old Testament with 127 of them found in Psalms. God's precepts are based on His steadfast love, not legalism. We love Him, because He first loved us!

1. Precept: God brings freedom to those who stop fighting Him and start following Him. Consider the steadfast love of the LORD

- Psalm 107:10-11, 17
- Psalm 107:14, 20

2. Precept: God is the avenger of those wronged and persecuted; let Him be the avenger, not you!

- Psalm 109:1-2
- Psalm 109:30-31

3. Precept: God's precepts are trustworthy and eternal; God will NEVER break or forget His precepts. Rest in the promises and precepts of His Word.

- Psalm 111:7-8
- Psalm 111:9-10

4. Precept: God calls His people to be generous because He is generous to them in grace. Be generous to others...even your enemies!

- Psalm 112:4-5
- Psalm 112:9

5. Precept: God works and blesses through His Word; truth must be anchored in the Word. Blessings are not the tangible things, but rather the teachable things from God to us!

- Psalm 119 is divided into 22 sections aligning with the letters of the Hebrew alphabet. The design is to teach basic precepts about the Word.
- Psalm 119:65-66
- Psalm 119:105, 107
- Psalm 119:165, 168
- The depths of God's steadfast love (chesed) are only explorable by searching His holy Word. Believe what God says and experience His rich blessings!

1. Read Psalm 107.

This is a song like we would be used to in our current culture. There are four stanzas broken up by the chorus. Stanza 1: 1-7; Stanza 2: 9-20; Stanza 3: 22-30; Stanza 4: 32-43 with the chorus repeated in verses 8, 21, 31. What precepts does each of these stanzas teach? Remember that songs are powerful ways to communicate truth and teach them to others. What is the precept of the chorus?

2. Read Psalm 109.

This psalm is a messianic Psalm that shows the betrayal that Jesus experienced on the earth, especially by Judas. Peter quotes this Psalm in Acts 1:20 when referring to Judas. How does the betrayal that Jesus went through provide truth for you when dealing with people that seek your harm? What is the impact of verse 4 when he says, "but I give myself to prayer?" How does prayer point us to precepts? Now read Psalm 110 (another Messianic Psalm). Psalm 109 shows the deceit of the enemy while Psalm 110 shows the deity of the Messiah, Jesus. Now read Acts 2:34, Hebrews 1:13; 5:6; 6:20; 7:21; 10:12-13. What precepts are taught about the deity of Jesus and what confidence does that give you?

3. Read Psalms 111-112.

These are called Hallelujah psalms. They are written to give great praise to our God. Notice the first three words of each psalm: Praise the LORD! What truths are we called to praise God? What areas in your life do you see as problems that God calls us to give praise? Does praise for your God continually roll from your tongue? Psalms 113-118 are the Hallel or Egyptian Hallel psalms that are sang/read during Jewish Feasts and tell the stories of how God delivered them from their Egyptian enemy. What precepts are taught in these psalms? What enemies has God delivered you from and are you continuing to praise Him for that deliverance? Praise prevents our return to the bondage and keeps us living in the freedom!

4. Read Psalm 119.

The main theme of this chapter is the Word of God. It is easy to fall into the thinking that programs, denominations, activities can change people; but the only thing that can impact people is the Word of God. There are 10 words used in this chapter for the Word, what are they? Once you have listed them, how does each word point out a strength or characteristic of the Word? Why would the psalmist use so many terms? Which verse in this chapter is one that encourages/challenges you most? Why? Out of the 176 verses, only 6 verses do not specifically use a term for the Word; but even those verses refer to the Word. Can you find which ones? What precepts do these six verses refer to and why would the Word not be referenced?

5. Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter in the entire Bible, but look at the precepts that it presents.

There are five precepts listed in this chapter, what are they? Notice how steadfast love and faithfulness are listed together (as well as in other psalms). How do they relate to each other? Can you have one without the other? Explain.