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- How blessed are those whose way is blameless,
  Who walk in the law of the LORD.
- 2 How blessed are those who observe His testimonies, Who seek Him with all their heart.
- 3 They also do no unrighteousness; They walk in His ways.
- 4 You have ordained Your precepts, That we should keep *them* diligently.
- 5 Oh that my ways may be established To keep Your statutes!
- 6 Then I shall not be ashamed When I look upon all Your commandments.
- 7 I shall give thanks to You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments.
- 8 I shall keep Your statutes; Do not forsake me utterly!

אַשְּׁתֵי תְּמִימִי־דָּעֶךְ הַחֹּלְכִים בְּתוֹרָת יְהוֶה: 1 119 אַשְּׁתִי נִצְּתִי עִדֹּתִיו בְּכָל־לֵב יִדְרְשְׁוּהוּ: 2 אַחָלִי יִפְנוּ דְרָכִי לִשְׁמִר חָמֶּיךְ: 3 אַחְלֵי יִפְנוּ דְרָכִי לִשְׁמִר חָמֶּיךְ: 4 אַוֹדְךְ בְּיָשֶׁר לַבָּב בְּלְמִדִי מִשְׁפְּטֵי צִּדְכֶּךְ: 5 אוֹדְךְ בְּיָשֶׁר לַבָּב בְּלְמִדִי מִשְׁפְּטֵי צִּדְכֶּךְ: 6 אַתְּרָךְ אָשְׁמִר אָל־בָּלְחָדִי מִשְׁפְּטֵי צִּדְכֶּךְ: 7

\*: The only life of blessedness is the life that is dedicated to God's Word.

- 1. Like the Lord's beatitudes (Matt. 5:3-12) these statements of blessedness are statements of happiness  $(\psi^{119}1-2)$ .
- 2. Asher gives us the word study for this psalm (Gen. 30:13).
- 3. This strophe agrees with the opening Psalm (Ps. 1:1-3) and indeed all of Scripture (Lk. 11:28; Jas. 1:25).

- Dedication to God's Word cannot be half-hearted (ψ<sup>119</sup>2; Deut. 6:5; Josh. 14:8).
- 5. Dedication to God's Word prevents the commission of personal sins ( $\psi^{119}$ 3; 1<sup>st</sup> Jn. 3:6,9; 5:18).
- Dedication to God's Word by keeping His precepts must be passed on from generation to generation (ψ<sup>119</sup>4; Deut. 5:28-33).
- 7. Our ways are not normally His ways (Isa. 55:8-9; Rom. 7:22-24) and so we are dependent upon Him to establish our ways ( $\psi^{119}5$ ; Ps. 51:10;  $2^{nd}$  Thess. 3:5; Heb. 13:21).
- Dedication to God's Word will never leave the believer ashamed (ψ<sup>119</sup>6,31,46,78,80,116; Rom. 9:33; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim. 2:15; 1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 2:6).
- Dedication to God's Word makes a believer increasingly thankful (ψ<sup>119</sup>7,62 cf. Ps. 86:11-13; Col. 3:15).

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10. We can claim His promises as our own commands issued back to Him ( $\psi^{119}$ 8 cf. Deut. 31:6.8).

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