

**'THE B.I.B.L.E.'**  
***('Yes! That's The BOOK For Me!')***  
**Studies in Psalm 119**

**New Testament Quiz:**

**5 Historical Books:**

**Acts of Messiah (4 Gospels) & Acts of Apostles (1 Book)**

M \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ J \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

**14 Ecclesiastical (Local Church) Books:**

**Pauline Epistles:**

*(The order: "...Preach the word! ... Convince, rebuke, exhort ... and teaching" 2 Timothy 4:1-2)*

**Convince**

**Rebuke**

R \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> C \_\_\_\_\_ G \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhortation**

E \_\_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> T \_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching**

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> T \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_\_ H \_\_\_\_\_

**8 General (Universal Church) Books:**

J \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> P \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> J \_\_\_\_\_ J \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_

**NT Questions:**

What do we call the first 3 gospels? S \_\_\_\_\_ Why are they called that? \_\_\_\_\_

What do we call the finalized, accepted group of books constituting the Bible? C \_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the letters Paul wrote while in jail? The \_\_\_\_\_ Epistles

Which 4 books did Paul write while in jail? \_\_\_\_\_

What do we call 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus? The \_\_\_\_\_ Epistles

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the author of Philemon \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrews \_\_\_\_\_ Revelation \_\_\_\_\_

## ‘Little Bo-Peep Sheep’

*(The Way Back for Sheep Who’ve Gone Astray)*

Psalm 119:169-176

22<sup>nd</sup> Hebrew letter / ‘taw’ / ‘t’ sound / root word:

*‘taw aw’ = to stray away, deceive or to be deceived away, to reel or stagger away.*

**Historical period of David’s life paralleling the finale of Psalm 119:** These verses portray a sorry psalmist who is *crying* out to God about having gone astray (*‘taw aw’/ vs. 176*), is seeking to return but desires to avoid as much punishment as possible for having done so. **2 Samuel 11-12** portrays David’s terrible moral failure in committing adultery with Bathsheba and arranging the murder of her husband, Uriah, in order to marry her. Instead of returning to war in the spring, he stayed home and fell into lustful temptations. To cover-up sin, David and Bathsheba married ASAP to hide her pregnancy. This wickedness greatly *displeased the Lord (1 Samuel 11:26-27)*.

God gave David a guilty conscience and physical distress about his sinful behavior and cover-up (*see David’s recollection of this in Psalm 32*). David’s evasion was because he knew there was no sacrifice for his sins of adultery and murder, only the death penalty. God eventually sent Nathan the prophet to rebuke David with a parable about ‘a lamb’ that illustrated how he had sinned (*1 Samuel 12:1-11*). After severe rebuke by Nathan and announcement of severe punishments to come upon him and his family for the rest of his life, he repented (*1 Samuel 12:13-15*). God then mercifully forgave David’s sin. His response to God’s forgiveness is recorded in **Psalm 51**, which is a perfect picture of a truly penitent believer.

**Psalm 119:169-176** fits this episode of David’s life, between his sin, the cover-up, and when the prophet Nathan came as God’s answer to **Psalm 119:176**: *“I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant...”* After Nathan’s rebuke, David was forgiven but the rest of his life was under chastisement (**2 Samuel 12: 15-24:25**). This unexpected ending to **Psalm 119** is probably because David had run out of alphabet, or he lost much creativity during the following years of family chaos. Or perhaps, this is a brilliant ending in that the cycle of a life lived under the Word of God is complete, and if a believer should end up as David did at **vs. 176**, there is nothing else to do but go back to **vs. 1** again and get back under the Word of God. The way back to God and the way to begin again with Him is always study of and obedience to His awesome Word!

*PtL*

## Sin: Deal or No Deal?

*(A Wayward Believer’s Way Back to God)*

Psalm 119:169-176

### A Prayer for Pity

*“Let my cry come before You, O LORD; Give me understanding according to Your Word. Let my supplication come before You; Deliver me according to Your Word.” Vvs. 169-170*

- Do the above lines describe your devotions after the sin, but before restoration?
- Discuss the difference in your prayers when all is not well with God. Talk about how feeling this way is a sign that the Holy Spirit is as grieved. Is the above petition for pity a good first step back toward God after ‘going astray’? (*discuss initial prayers after going astray*)

### A Plea-Bargain Prayer

*“My lips shall utter praise, for You teach me Your statutes. My tongue shall speak of Your Word, for all Your commandments are righteousness. Let Your hand become my help, for I have chosen Your precepts. I long for Your salvation, O LORD, and Your law is my delight.” Vvs. 171-174*

- These lines seem to be a *plea bargain* with God that He will go easy on chastisement. What are some illustrations of *plea bargain* prayers you’ve said, or heard people say?
- If you were in God’s position, how would you respond to *plea bargain* prayers?
- In David’s case, did praying like this make any difference in God’s chastening of him?
- Is *plea bargain* praying of any benefit in getting back into fellowship with God? (*How?*)

### A Penitent’s Prayer

*“Let my soul live, and it shall praise You; and let Your judgments help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.” Vvs. 175-176*

- How do these lines prove that the one praying them is genuinely sorry for their sin?
- How does the second line reveal that real permanent change can happen?
- Knowing the rest of the story with David, what are lessons on the difference between being forgiven and chastisements that God may allow any way?