

- The Torah of Yahweh - (a didactic poem) -

"Blessed are the undefiled in the way"

- a personal testimony -

- Its main purpose is to glorify the Torah (God's Teaching)

Directs almost every verse to God -

uses synonyms for the law

- The synonyms are LAW, TESTIMONY, PRECEPTS, JUDGMENTS, COMMANDMENTS, STATUTES, SAYINGS, WORD, WAY & PATH.

(Here the psalmist followed the lead of Ps 19:7-9 where six such synonyms for the law are used)

- The acrostic principle is highly developed in this psalm. Each stanza is composed of eight lines. - (some monotony)

- The intensity of the psalmist's own devotion to God's teachings

The Blessings of obedience ~~He walks in innocence~~
 (1-8) The Blessings of obedience ~~are the undefiled in the way~~
 → The theme - Blessed --- who walk in the Law of Yahweh
 Integrity of life -

(9-16) The Way of Cleansing - "Wherewithal -- cleanse --"
 (cf. Wisdom writers) -

The answer to the problems of youth is to heed

God's Word by meditating on it (v. 15) &

(15) committing it to memory (v. 11) & by testifying

(11) concerning it to others (v. 13)

(13) "I will keep thy statutes" -

(He warns vs. the sin of impurity) -

17-24 The Delight of Experience "Thy testimonies are my delight"
(Based on past ~~po~~ experience with God in times of persecution. a note of sorrow + desire runs thru this strophe but the section ends in Delight.)

25-32 Strength in Understanding.
"Quicken - teach - make me to understand" -
- Perils awaited him - He calls for strength + Comf
He realizes that the quickening he desires come from an understanding of God's teachings.

33-40 The Need for Guidance - "Teach me" - "I shall keep i"
He pleads with God to ^{(lead him in} ordering his life -
He wants to be kept from folly -

41-48 The Courage for witnessing.
"Set thy mercies come"
This is not a selfish plea for help -
He wants to be prepared to answer the ones who reproach him.
He will witness to kings without being ashamed

+

3119
49-56 - The Source of Comfort
"Remember the word unto thy servant."
God's teaching has been his stay in hours of affliction
He has been able to sing songs on the way

57-64 The Resolution of Faithfulness
"I have said that I would keep thy words."
He has "thought on his ways" & he has reached
this conclusion -
Rise at midnight! His gratitude leads him to arise at midnight
to thank God -

65-72 The Discipline of Affliction is good
for him. He has recognized affliction
as having a good effect on him -

73-80 The Justice of Retribution -

"Let the proud be ashamed" -
He pleads for blessings on himself and shame upon
his enemies - He will strengthen the faith of others.

81-88 The Hope in & Darkness

"my soul ~~is~~ fainteth" -- I hope in thy word --
"Sobs" -- He declares his hope + his determination
 → In dark hours he wants to be faithful

89-96 The Triumph of Faith -

92 "Unless thy law had been my delights I should have perished (v. 92)
 He is sure of victory now --
 He will never forget God's precepts since with thee
thou hast quickened me -

97-104 The Rapture of Enlightenment -

1 - "O How love I thy law!"
 He describes how the study of the Word has made him
 XX // Wiser + more understanding than his enemies teachers the aged ones
 → Emphasis on the Law itself + not native intelligence

105-112 The Sight of Life -

Thy word is a LAMP --- a LIGHT -
 God's teachings give light + wisdom + guidance
 He vows to follow the LIGHT -

113-120 The Inspiration of Loyalty -

Thou art my hiding place + my shield -
a sense of safety + inspiration to face the future

121-128 The Time of Intervention

→ "It is time for thee, Lord to work"
 He has followed the right - He appeals for action on
 God's part. His oppressors have disregarded God's la
 Only divine judgment is left for them.

129-136 The Wonder of Illumination -

thy testimonies are wonderful.
 He stands in awe of an inner light that gives
 understanding even to the unlearned man.
 The psalmist is broken-hearted over those who
 do not keep God's light.

137-144 - The Challenge of Righteousness -

"Righteous thou art, O Lord" - (a great concept)
 [cf. 137, 138, 142, 144]

XX // (Because Yahweh is righteous his judgments + testimoni
 are everlastingly righteous).

145-152 The Assurance from Prayer -

"I cried --- hear me O Lord" -
 He has prayed fervently and continuously for quickening
 He re-affirms his faith in God's nearness and the
 verity of His teaching

153-160 [The Consciousness of Need]

"Consider mine affliction, & deliver me" -

He keeps pleading, "quicken me" → (154, 156, 159)

"my affliction"
(Repeated) "deliver me"

The enduring nature of God's righteous judgments is
his hope & assurance -

161-168 - The Peace in Love -

→ "Great peace have they which love thy law" -

In the presence of enemies he has an inner peace -
a golden assurance - a certainty -

169-176) The Determination of Steadfastness -

→ "my lips shall utter praise" -

→ Pleads for further spiritual help -

→ He is sure that he will stand fast upon
the foundation of God's teachings