

The ABC's on the Word of God

קראתי בכל לב עיני ויהוה חקרתי אצרה:
קראתיו הושיעני ואשענה ערותי:
תקמתי בנשתי ואשענה לדבריך יחלמי:
קדמני עיני אשמרות לשית באמרתה:
הולכי שמעה כחסדך יהוה קמשפטני תני:
קרובי רופי ומה מותרת רחמי:
קרוב אתה ומה וכל מצותיך אמת:
קום, דעמי מעדתיך כי לעולם יסדמם:

ראה עיני ומלצמי פירמרתך לא שבחתי:
ריבה ריבי וגאלני לאמרתך תני:
רמוק מרשעים ישענה פירמרתך לא נרשי:
רחמיך רבים ויגה קמשפטני תני:
רבים רופי וצרי מעדתיך לא נתיי:
ראיתי בגדים והתקטטת אשר אמרתך לא שמרו:
ראה פירמרתך אהבתי יהוה קסדך תני:
ראשית דברך אמת יהוה לעולם כל משפט צדקה:

ארים רדפוני תפם אמדקרוך שתד לקי:
איש אנכי על אמרתך כמוצא שכל רב:
אשר אבאתי ואמצעה תורתך אהבתי:
אבע ביים הללתיך על משפטי צדקה:
אלום רב לאהבי תורתך ואדלמו ממשול:
אברתי לישענה ומה ומצותיך עשיתי:
אקרה גפשי עדתיד ואהבם מאד:
אמרתי פתויד ועדתיך כי כל דרכי נגדה:

תקרב רצוני לקרובי ומה כדברך הביגני:
תבוא תחתי לקרובי באמרתך היצילני:
תבצעה שפתי תהלה פי תלפני חסדי:
תען גליוני אמרתך כי כל מצותיך אדק:
תהי ידך לעונני כי פתויד ברחמי:
תאכתי לישענה ומה וימרתך שעשעי:
תחי גפשי ותהלה ומשפטך ועונני:
תעתי פשה אבד בקש עבדך כי מצויתך לא שבחתי:

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
> A common verb links v. 145 (קרא) "to call, or cry") with v. 146 (קרא) "to call, or cry")
> A common verb also links v. 147 (קום) "anticipate") with v. 148 (קום) "anticipate")

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
A. Near to the LORD (vv. 145-148)
1. Prayer Should Not be Separated from Obedience (vv. 145b, 146b)
a) Guard (דא)
b) Keep (דא)
- Without serious moral commitment, supplication is merely self-seeking:

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
A. Near to the LORD (vv. 145-148)
1. Prayer Should Not be Separated from Obedience (vv. 145b, 146b)
2. Prayer Should Not be Separated from Self-Denial (vv. 147a)
a) Rise Before the Dawn (דא)
- Not that our urgency is unimportant, but with prayer there should an element of sacrificial commitment:
3. Prayer Should Not be Separated from the Word (v. 149, cf. vv. 147b, 148b)
a) The Psalmist Appeals Based upon the LORD's Character:
b) The Psalmist Appeals Based upon the LORD's Word:

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
A. Near to the LORD (vv. 145-148)
B. The LORD is Near (vv. 149-152)
> Two 'nearnesses' contrasted:
1. The Nearness of the Wicked (v. 150a)
a) They are Far (דא) from the Torah (v. 150b)
b) They are Near (דא) from Deliverance (v. 155)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- A. *Near to the LORD* (vv. 145-148)
- B. *The LORD is Near* (vv. 149-152)
- Two 'nearnesses' contrasted:
  1. The Nearness of the Wicked (v. 150a)
  2. The Nearness of the LORD (v. 151a)
    - a) *The LORD's Nearness is Based on His Unchanging Love* (v. 149a)
    - b) *The LORD's Nearness is Based on His Unchanging Word* (v. 151, 152a)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- A. *The LORD Reliable* (vv. 154b, 156b, 159b)
  1. Revive Me According to Your Promise (v. 154b)
  2. Revive Me According to Your Ordinances (v. 156b)
  3. Revive Me According to Your Lovingkindness (v. 159b)
- B. *The Word Reliable* (v. 160)
  1. Truth (אֱמֶת)
  2. Righteous (צְדָקָה)
  3. Everlasting (עֲדָיִם)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- A. *The LORD Reliable* (vv. 154b, 156b, 159b)
- B. *The Word Reliable* (v. 160)
 

**The Lord's love runs to meet us and is more than able to match or cover every threat:**

  - C. Many (רַחֲמֵי) Mercies (v. 156)
  - C' Many (אֲדֵרְתֵי) Adversaries (v. 157)
  - B' The Wicked (v. 158)
  - A' Look (רִגְלֵי) My Love (vv. 159-160)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)
  - A. *The Constant Heart* (vv. 161-163)
    1. The Constant Heart Fears (v. 161)
    2. The Constant Heart Treasures (v. 162; cf. vv. 72, 127)
    3. The Constant Heart Loves (v. 163; cf. vv. 97, 113b, 119b)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)
  - A. *The Constant Heart* (vv. 161-163)
  - B. *The Constant Life* (vv. 164-166)
    1. It is Praiseful (v. 164)
      - Not merely morning and evening, not merely 3x a day, but 7x:

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)
  - A. *The Constant Heart* (vv. 161-163)
  - B. *The Constant Life* (vv. 164-166)
    1. It is Praiseful (v. 164)
    2. It is Without a Stumbling Block (v. 165)
      - It is a life determined to be constant under pressure and in devotion:
        - We are going to encounter moral conflict.*
        - We are not going to go unchallenged in our constancy.*
        - We will face the challenge of what we will love and what we will hate.*
        - The battle is for patient continuance:*

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)
  - A. *The Constant Heart* (vv. 161-163)
  - B. *The Constant Life* (vv. 164-166)
    1. It is Praiseful (v. 164)
    2. It is Without a Stumbling Block (v. 165)
    3. It is Obedient (v. 166)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)
  - A. *The Constant Heart* (vv. 161-163)
  - B. *The Constant Life* (vv. 164-166)
  - C. *The Constant Keeper* (vv. 167-168)
    1. Keeping that is Accompanied with Love (v. 167)
    2. Keeping that is Aimed at Pleasing (v. 168)

- I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)
- II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)
- III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)
- IV. The Life that Leans on the LORD (vv. 169-176)
  - A. *The Voice of Petition and Praise* (vv. 169-172)
    1. Petition for the LORD's Responsiveness (vv. 169-170)
      - a) *Petition for Responsiveness* (vv. 169a, 170a)
        - (i) Inwardly (Understanding) (v. 169b)
        - (ii) Outwardly (Deliver) (v. 170b)
      - b) *Petition for Responsiveness Based on the Word* (vv. 169b, 170b)

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)  
 II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)  
 III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)  
 IV. The Life that Leans on the LORD (vv. 169-176)  
   A. *The Voice of Petition and Praise* (vv. 169-172)  
     1. Petition for the LORD's Responsiveness (vv. 169-170)  
     2. Petition for the Psalmist's Responsiveness (vv. 171-172)  
       a) *Petition for Responsiveness* (vv. 171a, 172a)  
       b) *Petition for Responsiveness Based on the Word* (vv. 171b, 172b)

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)  
 II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)  
 III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)  
 IV. The Life that Leans on the LORD (vv. 169-176)  
   A. *The Voice of Petition and Praise* (vv. 169-172)  
   B. *The Voice of Testimony* (vv. 173-176)  
     1. Expressed:  
       a) *I Have Chosen* (v. 173b)  
       b) *I Long For* (v. 174a)  
       c) *I Delight* (v. 174b)  
       d) *I Do Not Forget* (v. 176b)  
     2. Arising From:  
       a) *Will* (v. 173)  
       b) *Affections* (v. 174)  
       c) *Mind/Memory* (v. 176)

I. The LORD's Presence (vv. 145-152)  
 II. The LORD's Reliability and Mercy (vv. 153-160)  
 III. The Life that Honors the LORD (vv. 161-168)  
 IV. The Life that Leans on the LORD (vv. 169-176)  
   A. *The Voice of Petition and Praise* (vv. 169-172)  
   B. *The Voice of Testimony* (vv. 173-176)  
   C. *The Voice of Utter Dependence* (vv. 173a, 175, 176a)