

POINT: THE BIBLE IS BASIC FOR CHRISTIAN FAITH & LIFE

I. THE BIBLE IS THE ABCs OF THE BELIEVER'S LIFE

- A. **MOST EXTENSIVE ACROSTIC** (alphabetic; see Ps.9,10; 25; 34; 37; 111,112; 145; Lam.1-4; Prv.31:10-31)
- B. **22 UNITS; 8 VS; EACH LINE SAME LETTER; NEXT UNIT NEXT LETTER** (see reverse)
- C. **POINT: THE BIBLE IS BASIC & PREREQUISITE FOR ALL OTHER SPIRITUAL GOOD**
(Mk.6:34; Acts 2:42; 2Th.2:10,12,13; 1Tm.4:11,13,16; 2Tm.3:14-17; Heb.5:11f)

II. THE BIBLE IS THE BELIEVER'S HANDBOOK OF WISDOM (Ps.119:98; 19:7b; see 2Tm.3:15)

- A. **POETIC PARALLELISM: WISDOM LITERATURE** (see Proverbs, prophets)
- B. **POINT: THE BIBLE IS YOUR PDR AND WORTHY OF LONG, DEEP MEDITATION**
(24; see Prov.1:6; note: Charles Bridges; David Dickson; one a day)

III. THE BIBLE IS THE ONLY ABSOLUTE STANDARD FOR FAITH & LIFE

(43, 160; (Jn.18:38); see *WCF*, I)

- A. **PERSONAL REVELATION: YOUR...** (18, 14, 4, 5, 6, 20, 9, 11; note: covenant; 17,etc.; 41,etc.; Ex.6:7)
- B. **PERSONAL RESPONSE: LOVE // DELIGHT IN**
(with each of the eight synonyms; 97,119,159,47,127,(30),(140) // 70,24,(40),16,47,(20),16,140,11,103)
- C. **EIGHT MAJOR SYNONYMS** (see Eccl.11:2; Mic.5:5; Lk.2:21; 9:28; Ezk.40:31f;(41))
 - 1. **LAW**: personal revelation to be believed, obeyed, loved (*torah*, main term; 97,113,163 /Ps.19:7a; Jm.1:25; Jn13:17)
 - 2. **TESTIMONIES**: witness for truth (24,36,99; see Ps.19:7b; Dt.31:26; see 1Jn.4:1)
 - 3. **PRECEPTS**: detailed instructions for thorough care (4,15,45,104; Ps.19:8a; Jer.23:2)
 - 4. **STATUTES**: permanent, enduring; dependable (5,71,80,118; see Ex.34:1; Is.30:8; Mt.2:5,etc.)
 - 5. **COMMANDMENTS**: obligations to lawful authority (6,60,73,151; Ps.19:8b; see Ex.20:1f; Mt.28:18f)
 - 6. **ORDINANCES, JUDGMENTS**: applications of law to particular cases (39,160; 75,137; Ps.19:9b; *divine precedents*; e.g., 1Sam.10:25; Num.15:30f; 1Cor.5:1f)
 - 7. **WORD**: most general term for some *thing* from God (9,105,160)
 - 8. **PROMISE**: most general term for something *said* by God (11,50,103,140,162; see 57; see Mt.4:4=Dt.8:3)
- D. **OTHER SYNONYMS: WAYS** (3,37); **NAME** (132); **FAITHFULNESS** (90)
- E. **SUMMARY: A CELEBRATION OF THE PERSONAL REVELATION OF GOD TO HIS COVENANT PEOPLE SO THAT THEY WOULD KNOW HIM, LOVE HIM, BE CONFORMED TO HIM, GLORIFY HIM AND ENJOY HIM FOREVER.**

IV. LEARN YOUR HOLY ALPHABET! (Ps.119; see Heb.5:12f)

- A. **LOVE LETTERS STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART!** (with each of the eight synonyms; love//delight in; 97,119,159,47,127,(30), (140) // 70,24,(40),16,47,(20),16,140,11,103)
- B. **DEVOTE YOURSELF TO LEARN THEM AND USE THEM** (Acts 2:42; 6:4; e.g., *daily* personal devotions & family worship; *weekly* Bible study & preaching)
- C. **"PROMISE TO TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO LOVE GOD AND HIS WORD, THE BIBLE"**
(from baptismal vow #2; see Ps.78:5-8; 2Tm.3:14f)
- D. **SEEK THE WISDOM THAT LEADS TO SALVATION** (2Tm.3:15; Rom.10:17)
- E. **SEEK THE WISDOM THAT LEADS TO MATURITY & USEFULNESS** (2Tm.3:16,17; see Heb.5:12f; 1Tm.4:11-16; Eph.4:11-16)

Discussion question:

Brethren, what shall we do? (see Acts 2:37f; Jn.13:17)