I Hope in Your Word – Part 1

Ken Chapman · Psalm 119:147

INTRODUCTION

- In my darkest hour, on my worst day, in the lousiest year, I still have so much to be thankful for. And so much to praise God for.
- And so I want to talk about the Word of God this morning.
- I want to encourage you and maybe spur in you or to reawaken in you a passion for the Word of God.

1 I Hope in Your Word

Psalm 119:147

- It is the longest of all the Psalms, and if we reckon it as a chapter in our Bible, it is by far the longest chapter in all of the Bible.
- Those 22 stanzas correspond with the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
- It has a singular theme. Each 176 verses talk about one subject. And it's our subject this morning the word of God.
- It may have been the darkest hour of the worst day of the lousiest year of his life when he said, I rise before the dawning of the morning and cry for help.
- We need to echo the words of the psalmist and say, I hope in your word.

2 Why Do I Read and Study God's Word?

- The psalmist is going to say over and over again, teach me your statutes.
- We maybe sometimes study God's Word to complete some assignment.
- We may do it out of a sense of obligation because we feel like we have to.
- I might just read it because it's good reading. It's great literature.
- I wouldn't say any of those are necessarily bad reasons. But I would argue to you this morning, they're not the primary reasons.
- The primary reasons we should read and study the Word of God is number one, to know our God. And then secondly, we read and study it to learn His will for our lives.

3 Because You Are God, Teach Me Your Statutes

Psalm 119:12; 1 Corinthians 2:11–13

- Blessed are you, O Lord. Teach me your statutes.
- I think the psalmist is saying, because you are God, blessed are you, O Lord, because you are who you are, teach me your statutes.
- God reveals himself in every commandment. The law itself reveals the lawgiver.
- That's not just a list of do's and don'ts. That's a revelation of who God is.
- Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

- You can't know the mind of God. Unless he lets you know. Unless he reveals his mind, and he does that through his word.

4 Because You Love Me, Teach Me Your Statutes

Psalm 119:64

- The earth, O Lord, is full of your mercy. Teach me your statutes.
- I think the psalmist here is saying, Because you love me, teach me your statutes.
- We read the scriptures to see all of the ways that God loves us.
- I can see God coming in the flesh in the person of Jesus Christ. His teachings, his suffering, his death on the cross, his resurrection, and his ascension back to the throne, and see that was for me.
- The way he loved Abraham and Moses and David. And even forgave Paul is the way he'll love me. And forgive me.
- We say to God, teach me your statutes so that we might learn the love of God and see it and feel it in its reality in my life.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Would you come to him this morning? Are you crying out for help? Then hope in his word and come to him right now.**

MY NOTES