

The Hebrew Alphabet & the Law

Sermon

Aleph=Learn, Teach, or Ox

Picture: Ox head

Symbol: First, One, Master

Meaning: Strong, Power, Leader

The *aleph* is the first letter used by God in writing the Ten Commandments in stone. The first eight verses of Psalm 119 shows the supremacy and first place the Law is to have in our lives.

Psalm 119:1-8 (NASB95)

- 1 How blessed are those whose way is blameless, Who walk in the law of the LORD.
- **2** How blessed are those who observe His testimonies, Who seek Him with all *their* heart.
- **3** They also do no unrighteousness; They walk in His ways.
- **4** You have ordained Your precepts, That we should keep *them* diligently.
- 5 Oh that my ways may be established To keep Your statutes!
- 6 Then I shall not be ashamed When I look upon all Your commandments.
- **7 I shall give thanks** to You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments.
- 8 I shall keep Your statutes; Do not forsake me utterly!

Those that follow the Law of God are established or strong. The Law of God is first and strong. This pictures a great leader. One who walks in the Law of God.

- 1. As-re—Blessed or make happy: Root—To be straight or right
- 2. As-re—Blessed or make happy: Root—To be straight or right
- 3. Ap—Addition: Root—To Bind
- 4. At-ta—You
- 5. A-ha-lay—Wish: Root—To cry out, to groan



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- 6. Az—In that place, there, at that time: Root—To consent
- 7. Ya-da—To cast or throw
- 8. Es-mor—To keep, to watch, to guard

Beth=House, Household

Picture: House, Tent

Symbol: Blessing, Creation, Duality, Plurality

Meaning: Family, House, Temple In

Whereas the first eight verses talk about seeking Him with the heart, these eight verses talk about putting the Law in my heart. Paul talks about us being the temple or house of the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 119:9-16 (NASB95)

- **9** How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.
- 10 With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments.
- **11** Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.
- **12** Blessed are You, O LORD; Teach me Your statutes.
- **13** With my lips I have told of All the ordinances of Your mouth.
- **14** I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches.
- 15 I will meditate on Your precepts And regard Your ways.
- **16** I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word.

Young man—Family

Wander from—House

Treasured in—In

- 1. Ba-me—In and Fear
- 2. B—In
- 3. B—In
- 4. Ba-ruk—To kneel down
- 5. B—In
- 6. B—In
- 7. B—In



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8. B—In

Gimmel=Deal, Recompense, Camel

Picture: Camel, Foot

Symbol: Kindness (to give), Culmination, Maturity

Meaning: Gather Walk

Psalm 119:17-24 (NASB95)

- 17 Deal bountifully with Your servant, That I may live and keep Your word.
- **18** Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Your law.
- 19 I am a stranger in the earth; Do not hide Your commandments from me.
- 20 My soul is crushed with longing After Your ordinances at all times.
- **21** You rebuke the arrogant, the cursed, Who wander from Your commandments.
- **22** Take away reproach and contempt from me, For I observe Your testimonies.
- **23** Even though princes sit *and* talk against me, Your servant meditates on Your statutes.
- **24** Your testimonies also are my delight; They are my counselors.
 - 1. Ge-mal—To Give, To Do
 - 2. Gal—To make naked
 - 3. Ger—Stranger: Root—To cover or overspread
 - 4. Gar-sa—To break in pieces by scraping, rubbing, To crush
 - 5. Ga-ar-ta—To rebuke
 - 6. Gal—To Roll
 - 7. Gam—Addition: Root—To sit8. Gam—Addition: Root—To sit

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Daleth=Draw Water, Door

Picture: Door

Symbol: Dimensions, Concern Meaning: Move, Hang, Entrance

Psalm 119:25-32 (NASB95)

- 25 My soul cleaves to the dust; Revive me according to Your word.
- 26 I have told of my ways, and You have answered me; Teach me Your statutes.
- 27 Make me understand the way of Your precepts, So I will meditate on Your wonders.
- **28** My soul weeps because of grief; Strengthen me according to Your word.
- 29 Remove the false way from me, And graciously grant me Your law.
- **30** I have chosen the faithful way; I have placed Your ordinances before me.
- **31** I cling to Your testimonies; O LORD, do not put me to shame!
- 32 I shall run the way of Your commandments, For You will enlarge my heart.
 - 1. Dab-qa—To Cleave, To Adhere
 - 2. Dera-ka—Going or walking: Root—To tread with feet
 - 3. Dera-ka—Going or walking: Root—To tread with feet
 - 4. Dal-pa—To Drop or Drip
 - Dera-ka—Going or walking: Root—To tread with feet
 - 6. Dera-ka—Going or walking: Root—To tread with feet
 - 7. Dab-qa—To Cleave, To Adhere
 - 8. Dera-ka—Going or walking: Root—To tread with feet

He=Lo, Behold

Picture: Man with arms raised, Window

Symbol: Divinity, Gentility (well-mannered or polite), Specificity

Meaning: Look, Reveal, Breath

Psalm 119:33-40 (NASB95)

- **33** Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall observe it to the end.
- **34** Give me understanding, that I may observe Your law And keep it with all my heart.
- **35** Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.



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- **36** Incline my heart to Your testimonies And not to *dishonest* gain.
- **37 Turn** away my eyes from looking at vanity, And revive me in Your ways.
- **38** Establish Your word to Your servant, As that which produces reverence for You.
- **39** Turn away my reproach which I dread, For Your ordinances are good.
- **40** Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me through Your righteousness.
 - 1. Hor—To Cast
 - 2. Habin—To Distinguish, To Separate
 - 3. Had-rik—To Tread with feet
 - 4. Hat—To stretch out, to extend
 - 5. Ha-aber—To pass over
 - 6. Ha-qem—To arise
 - 7. Ha-aber—To pass over
 - 8. Hin-ne—Behold

Waw=Hook, Nail, Peg

Picture: Nail or Hook

Symbol: Completion, Redemption, Transformation

Meaning: Add, Secure, Hook

Psalm 119:41-48 (NASB95)

- **41 (and)** May Your lovingkindnesses also come to me, O LORD, Your salvation according to Your word;
- **42 (then)** So I will have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.
- **43** And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, For I wait for Your ordinances.
- **44 (and)** So I will keep Your law continually, Forever and ever.
- **45** And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.
- **46** I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings And shall not be ashamed.
- **47 (For)** I shall delight in Your commandments, Which I love.
- **48** And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love; And I will meditate on Your statutes.



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Strictly used of the hooks used to hang the curtains of the temple. Hebrews 10:19-20

- 1. Wi—And
- 2. W-Then
- 3. Wi—And
- 4. Wi-And
- 5. Wi—And
- 6. Wa-Also
- 7. W—For
- 8. Wi--And

Zayin=Weapon, arm, to arm, ornament,

Picture: Mattock, Weapon

Symbol: Spirit, Sustenance, Struggle

Meaning: Food, Cut, Nourish

Psalm 119:49-56 (NASB95)

- **49** Remember the word to Your servant, In which You have made me hope.
- **50** This is my comfort in my affliction, That Your word has revived me.
- **51** The arrogant utterly deride me, *Yet* I do not turn aside from Your law.
- **52** I have remembered Your ordinances from of old, O LORD, And comfort myself.
- 53 Burning indignation has seized me because of the wicked, Who forsake Your law.
- **54** Your statutes are my songs In the house of my pilgrimage.
- **55** O LORD, I remember Your name in the night, And keep Your law.
- **56** This has become mine, That I observe Your precepts.
 - 1. Ze-kor—To remember
 - 2. Zot—This
 - 3. Ze-dim—Proud
 - 4. Ze-kar-ti—To remember
 - 5. Zal-a-pa—A violent heat
 - 6. Zemi-rot—Songs
 - 7. Ze-kar-ti—To remember



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8. Zot—This

Cheth or Heth=Wall, Fence

Picture: Wall-Stacking stones

Symbol: Transcendence, Divine Grace, Life

Meaning: Outside, Divide, Half

Psalm 119:57-64 (NASB95)

57 The LORD is my portion; I have promised to keep Your words.

58 I sought Your favor with all *my* heart; Be gracious to me according to Your word.

59 I considered my ways And turned my feet to Your testimonies.

60 I hastened and did not delay To keep Your commandments.

61 The cords of the wicked have encircled me, But I have not forgotten Your law.

62 At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You Because of Your righteous ordinances.

63 I am a companion of all those who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts.

64 The earth is full of Your lovingkindness, O LORD; Teach me Your statutes.

- 1. Helq—Share of something
- 2. Hil-i-ti—To be rubbed
- 3. His-sob-ti—To think, to meditate
- 4. Has-ti—To make haste
- 5. Hab-li—Cord
- Hasot—Middle
- 7. Haber—An associate
- 8. Ha—The

Teth or Tet=Serpent, Spin, Knot, Entwine Together

Picture: Basket or Serpent

Symbol: Goodness

Meaning: Surround, Contain, Mud

Psalm 119:65-72 (NASB95)

65 You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word.



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- **66** Teach me good discernment and knowledge, For I believe in Your commandments.
- **67** Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.
- **68** You are good and do good; Teach me Your statutes.
- **69** The arrogant have forged a lie against me; With all my heart I will observe Your precepts.
- **70** Their heart is covered with fat, But I delight in Your law.
- **71** It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.
- **72** The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver *pieces*.
 - 1. Tob—Good
 - 2. Tub—Good
 - 3. Te-rem—To cut off
 - 4. Tob—Good
 - 5. Tap-lu—To patch or sew together
 - 6. Ta-pas—Unfeeling
 - 7. Tob—Good
 - 8. To-rat—Instruction, doctrine

Yodh or Yod=Closed Hand and Arm

Picture: Closed Hand and Arm

Symbol: Creation

Meaning: Power, Work, Throw

Psalm 119:73-80 (NASB95)

73 Your hands made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

74 May those who fear You see me and be glad, Because I wait for Your word.

75 I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are righteous, And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.

76 O may Your lovingkindness comfort me, According to Your word to Your servant.

77 May Your compassion come to me that I may live, For Your law is my delight.

78 May the arrogant be ashamed, for they subvert me with a lie; *But* I shall meditate on Your precepts.

79 May those who fear You turn to me, Even those who know Your testimonies.



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80 May my heart be blameless in Your statutes, So that I will not be ashamed.

- 1. Yad-e—Hands
- 2. Yere-e—To Tremble
- 3. Ya-da-te—To See
- 4. Ye-hi—To be, to exist
- 5. Yebo-u—To enter
- 6. Ye-bo-su—To shame
- 7. Yere-e—To Tremble
- 8. Ye-hi—To be, to exist

Kaph or Caph=Open or Outstreched Hand

Picture: Open hand

Symbol: Crowning Accomplishment Meaning: Bend, Open, Allow, Tame

Psalm 119:81-88 (NASB95)

- **81** My soul languishes for Your salvation; I wait for Your word.
- **82** My eyes fail with longing for Your word, While I say, "When will You comfort me?"
- 83 Though I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, I do not forget Your statutes.
- **84** How many are the days of Your servant? When will You execute judgment on those who persecute me?
- **85** The arrogant have dug pits for me, *Men* who are not in accord with Your law.
- 86 All Your commandments are faithful; They have persecuted me with a lie; help me!
- **87** They almost destroyed me on earth, But as for me, I did not forsake Your precepts.
- **88** Revive me according to Your lovingkindness, So that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth.
 - 1. Kal-ta—To be completed
 - 2. Ka-lu—To finish
 - 3. Ki—Indeed
 - 4. Ka—As
 - 5. Ka-ru—To dig



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- 6. Kal—The whole, the total amount
- 7. Ka—As
- 8. Ka--As

Lamed=To Learn or Teach

Picture: Shepherd Staff, Ox Goad

Symbol: Teaching, Purpose

Meaning: Teach, Yoke, To, Bind

Psalm 119:89-96 (NASB95)

89 Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.

90 Your faithfulness *continues* throughout all generations; You established the earth, and it stands.

- **91** They stand this day according to Your ordinances, For all things are Your servants.
- **92** If Your law had not been my delight, Then I would have perished in my affliction.
- **93** I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have revived me.
- 94 I am Yours, save me; For I have sought Your precepts.
- **95** The wicked wait for me to destroy me; I shall diligently consider Your testimonies.
- 96 I have seen a limit to all perfection; Your commandment is exceedingly broad.

Mem=Waters

Picture: Wave

Symbol: Revealed and Concealed Meaning: Chaos, Mighty, Blood

Psalm 119:97-104 (NASB95)

- **97** O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.
- 98 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, For they are ever mine.
- 99 I have more insight than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation.
- **100** I understand more than the aged, Because I have observed Your precepts.
- **101** I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word.
- 102 I have not turned aside from Your ordinances, For You Yourself have taught me.



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103 How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

104 From Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.

Nun=Multiply, Increase

Picture: Seed

Symbol: Faithfulness, Soul, Emergence

Meaning: Continue, Heir, Son

Psalm 119:105-112 (NASB95)

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

106 I have sworn and I will confirm it, That I will keep Your righteous ordinances.

107 I am exceedingly afflicted; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.

108 O accept the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, And teach me Your ordinances.

109 My life is continually in my hand, Yet I do not forget Your law.

110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, Yet I have not gone astray from Your precepts.

111 I have inherited Your testimonies forever, For they are the joy of my heart.

112 I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes Forever, even to the end.

Samech=Lean Upon, Support, Uphold

Picture: Thorn

Symbol: Support, Protection, Memory

Meaning: Grab, Hate, Protect

Psalm 119:113-120 (NASB95)

113 I hate those who are double-minded, But I love Your law.

114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I wait for Your word.

115 Depart from me, evildoers, That I may observe the commandments of my God.

116 Sustain me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.

117 Uphold me that I may be safe, That I may have regard for Your statutes continually.

118 You have rejected all those who wander from Your statutes, For their deceitfulness is



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useless.

119 You have removed all the wicked of the earth *like* dross; Therefore I love Your testimonies.

120 My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your judgments.

Ayin=Eye, Spring, Fountian

Picture: Eye

Symbol: Sight, Insight

Meaning: Watch, Know, Shade

Psalm 119:121-128 (NASB95)

121 I have done justice and righteousness; Do not leave me to my oppressors.

122 Be surety for Your servant for good; Do not let the arrogant oppress me.

123 My eyes fail with longing for Your salvation And for Your righteous word.

124 Deal with Your servant according to Your lovingkindness And teach me Your statutes.

125 I am Your servant; give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.

126 It is time for the LORD to act, For they have broken Your law.

127 Therefore I love Your commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold.

128 Therefore I esteem right all *Your* precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way.

Pey=Mouth, Speech

Picture: Mouth

Symbol: Speech, Silence

Meaning: Blow, Scatter, Edge

Psalm 119:129-136 (NASB95)

129 Your testimonies are wonderful; Therefore my soul observes them.

130 The unfolding of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

131 I opened my mouth wide and panted, For I longed for Your commandments.

132 Turn to me and be gracious to me, After Your manner with those who love Your name.



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- **133** Establish my footsteps in Your word, And do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.
- **134** Redeem me from the oppression of man, That I may keep Your precepts.
- **135** Make Your face shine upon Your servant, And teach me Your statutes.
- **136** My eyes shed streams of water, Because they do not keep Your law.

Tsade or Tzade=Hunt, Fish Hook, Just, Rightous

Picture: Man on his side

Symbol: Righteousness, Humility Meaning: Wait, Chase, Snare, Hunt

Psalm 119:137-144 (NASB95)

- **137** Righteous are You, O LORD, And upright are Your judgments.
- **138** You have commanded Your testimonies in righteousness And exceeding faithfulness.
- **139** My zeal has consumed me, Because my adversaries have forgotten Your words.
- **140** Your word is very pure, Therefore Your servant loves it.
- **141** I am small and despised, *Yet* I do not forget Your precepts.
- **142** Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, And Your law is truth.
- **143** Trouble and anguish have come upon me, Yet Your commandments are my delight.
- **144** Your testimonies are righteous forever; Give me understanding that I may live.

Qoph=Circle, Coming Around, Span of Time, Cycle

Picture: Sun on the Horizon Symbol: Holiness, Growth Cycle Meaning: Condense, Circle, Time

Psalm 119:145-152 (NASB95)

- **145** I cried with all my heart; answer me, O Lord! I will observe Your statutes.
- **146** I cried to You; save me And I shall keep Your testimonies.
- **147** I rise before dawn and cry for help; I wait for Your words.
- **148** My eyes anticipate the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word.



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149 Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness; Revive me, O Lord, according to Your ordinances.

150 Those who follow after wickedness draw near; They are far from Your law.

151 You are near, O Lord, And all Your commandments are truth.

152 Of old I have known from Your testimonies That You have founded them forever.

Resh=Head, First, Captian

Picture: Head

Symbol: Choosing between greatness and degradation

Meaning: First, Top, Beginning

Psalm 119:153-160 (NASB95)

153 Look upon my affliction and rescue me, For I do not forget Your law.

154 Plead my cause and redeem me; Revive me according to Your word.

155 Salvation is far from the wicked, For they do not seek Your statutes.

156 Great are Your mercies, O LORD; Revive me according to Your ordinances.

157 Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, *Yet* I do not turn aside from Your testimonies.

158 I behold the treacherous and loathe *them*, Because they do not keep Your word.

159 Consider how I love Your precepts; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness.

160 The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

Shin=Tooth, Sharpen

Picture: Two Front Teeth

Symbol: Divine Power and Script but also of Corruption

Meaning: Sharp, Press, Eat, Two

Psalm 119:161-168 (NASB95)

161 Princes persecute me without cause, But my heart stands in awe of Your words.



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- **162** I rejoice at Your word, As one who finds great spoil.
- **163** I hate and despise falsehood, But I love Your law.
- **164** Seven times a day I praise You, Because of Your righteous ordinances.
- **165** Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.
- **166** I hope for Your salvation, O LORD, And do Your commandments.
- **167** My soul keeps Your testimonies, And I love them exceedingly.
- **168** I keep Your precepts and Your testimonies, For all my ways are before You.

Tav=Mark, Boundary

Picture: Crossed Sticks Symbol: Truth, Perfection

Meaning: Mark, Sign, Signal, Monument

Psalm 119:169-176 (NASB95)

- 169 Let my cry come before You, O LORD; Give me understanding according to Your word.
- 170 Let my supplication come before You; Deliver me according to Your word.
- **171** Let my lips utter praise, For You teach me Your statutes.
- 172 Let my tongue sing of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness.
- **173** Let Your hand be ready to help me, For I have chosen Your precepts.
- **174** I long for Your salvation, O LORD, And Your law is my delight.
- **175** Let my soul live that it may praise You, And let Your ordinances help me.
- **176** I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant, For I do not forget Your commandments.

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