

Outline – Sunday School, March 12, 2017

Sermon Title: The Way of a Purified Life: Preserving a Path of Purity

Text: Psalm 119:9-16, BETH

1. **The Question** *Contemplated* (**v 9**): The Psalmist raises a question about the *process of Sanctification*.

The "young man," in process of learning, growing, maturing. Prov 1:4; 7:7; 22:6/1 John 2:13-14

"Cleanse his way" = This emphasizes the NEED for sanctification:

- a. He is truly in relationship with God, Who is Holy: His nature: Hab 1:13/1 Pet 1:14-19/Ps 24:3-4 His will: 1 Thess 4:3-5/Psalm 5:4-6
- b. He has truly been changed (born again), and authentically desires Purity from the heart: Matt 5:8/ James 4:8/Heb 13:18/Phil 4:8/1 John 3:3
- c. He still struggles with the principle of sin that remains: Gal 5:19-21/1 Pet 2:11
- d. He has learned that to experience this in life is a blessing from God. Ps 119:1-3

"Taking heed" = "Guarding" the way by the Word: *Observation/Protection/Application Why*? The chief means of our sanctification is the "Word of Truth!" John 17:17

- 2. **The Methods** *Considered* (v 10-14): The Psalmist rehearses all of the (past) ways in which he has sought to guard his way by the Word of God *by His Grace*.
 - a. <u>Seeking God through His Word</u> (v10): to observe, consult, enquire of, search, investigate, study Ps 9:10; 34:4/2 Ch 15:15/Ps 10:4/Rom 3:9-11
 - b. <u>Treasuring</u> His Word (v 11): To esteem, treasure, store up, i.e. to obtain and retain *How?* Meditation/Memorization: Ps 37:31/Lk 2:19Prov 2:1,7/Matt 6:19-21
 - c. <u>Praising/Praying</u> to God for Knowledge of His Word (v 12): Ascribing blessing to God, for Who He is, and for teaching him what he had learned: Eph 3:1/Ps 25:4; 110: 26, 33/John 6:45
 - d. <u>Proclaiming</u> His Word (v 13) = by teaching others we affirm the truth, our faith, and our own need to obey. Ps 34:11/1 Cor 9:27
 - e. <u>Delighting</u> in His Word (v 14): 1 Pet 3:15/The way of God's testimonies brings to us a life of true joy. Ps 119:162/Is 61:10/Ps 73:28

3. The Resolve <i>Concluded</i> (v 15-16): The Psalmist is resolved to continue in the way that has been prescribed for him according to the Scriptures.
What fills the mind, moves the heart: What moves the heart, motivates the will. Ps 1:2; 119:23, 48
Conclusion : Learning to "Appreciate the Process" is the key a right attitude as we mature. Appreciating God's grace in our lives keeps us honest and sober, so that we recognize our constant need of grace, and also affirm the grace we have <i>already received</i> for the progress we have made in Christ. John 1:16