

GOD'S PERFECT LAW

Old Testament Lesson #209

Psalm 19 is a psalm written by David. It is a psalm in which David puts forward two great witnesses to the existence and power of God. They are: creation and the Word of God. The opening six verses of the psalm speak to the witness of creation, and it is verses 7-14 which deal with the Word of God.

David had a tremendous respect and love for the Word of God. He writes: "the law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous" (Psalm 19:7-9).

The words, "law", "statutes", "precepts", "commands" and "ordinances" in these three verses are all different words relating to God's words that He inspired men like David to write for us. They are words which can motivate men and women to do great deeds of faith, and to accomplish great things for God. David did this throughout his life.

David appreciated the value of God's Words. He describes them as "more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb" (Psalm 19:10). They are valuable because they provide warning to God's servants. It helps to guide them in the right way, so that what they do is pleasing to God. Because of this, keeping God's Words result in great reward.

It is also God's Word that can help an individual understand his or her own faults and aid them in discerning their errors. If we shine the light of God's Word in our lives, it will help us to bring about changes that will make us better servants of God. David desired to be pleasing to God in all that he did, and he knew that he needed to know and understand God's Word in order to succeed at this.

As David reflects back on the words he writes in the psalm about creation and God's Word, he can't help but end the psalm in prayer to God. He prays: "Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great

transgression. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer" (Psalm 19:13-14).

We need to listen to David's advice and keep God's Word always at the forefront of our minds. If we do that, we will have a powerful tool to help us live our lives in faithful obedience to Almighty God.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- When Joshua took over for Moses to lead the nation of Israel into the Promised Land, God gave Joshua some important advice. He told Joshua how to be a successful leader. He said: "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful" (Joshua 1:8).
- Psalm 119 is the longest psalm and chapter of the entire Bible. It is a psalm devoted to topic of the Word of God. An oft quoted verse from that psalm is verse 105, which says: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."
- The Apostle Paul writes to Timothy about the importance and value of the Word of God. He writes: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- In describing the power of God's Word to help us direct our lives and distinguish between right and wrong, the writer of Hebrews writes: "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

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ANSWER KEY:

P	E	R	(S)	T	A	T	U	T	E	(S)	F	E	C	T	PERFECT	
T	R	U	S	T	W	O	(L)	A	W	(S)	R	T	H	Y	TRUSTWORTHY	
R	I	(G)	U	I	D	E	L	I	N	E	(S)	G	H	T	RIGHT	
R	A	D	I	(C)	O	M	M	A	N	D	(S)	A	N	T	RADIANT	
S	(I)	N	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	O	N	(S)	U	R	E	SURE
P	R	E	(D)	E	C	R	E	E	(S)	C	I	O	U	S	PRECIOUS	
S	W	E	E	(O)	R	D	I	N	A	N	C	E	(S)	T	SWEET	

wisdom, light, joy, reward

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

God's Word is said to be more precious than gold and sweeter than honey.

In each row, find and circle a word that means "directions to follow." Write the remaining letters in order to spell words that King David used to describe God's Word.

P	E	R	S	T	A	T	U	T	E	S	F	E	C	T
T	R	U	S	T	W	O	L	A	W	S	R	T	H	Y
R	I	G	U	I	D	E	L	I	N	E	S	G	H	T
R	A	D	I	C	O	M	M	A	N	D	S	A	N	T
S	I	N	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	O	N	U	R	E
P	R	E	D	E	C	R	E	E	S	C	I	O	U	S
S	W	E	E	O	R	D	I	N	A	N	C	E	S	T

The person who loves to follow God's law receives wonderful benefits. Follow the directions to find what they are.

1. In the word WINDOW, replace the last letter of SIN with its first letter. Then turn the second W upside down.

Write the new word: _____

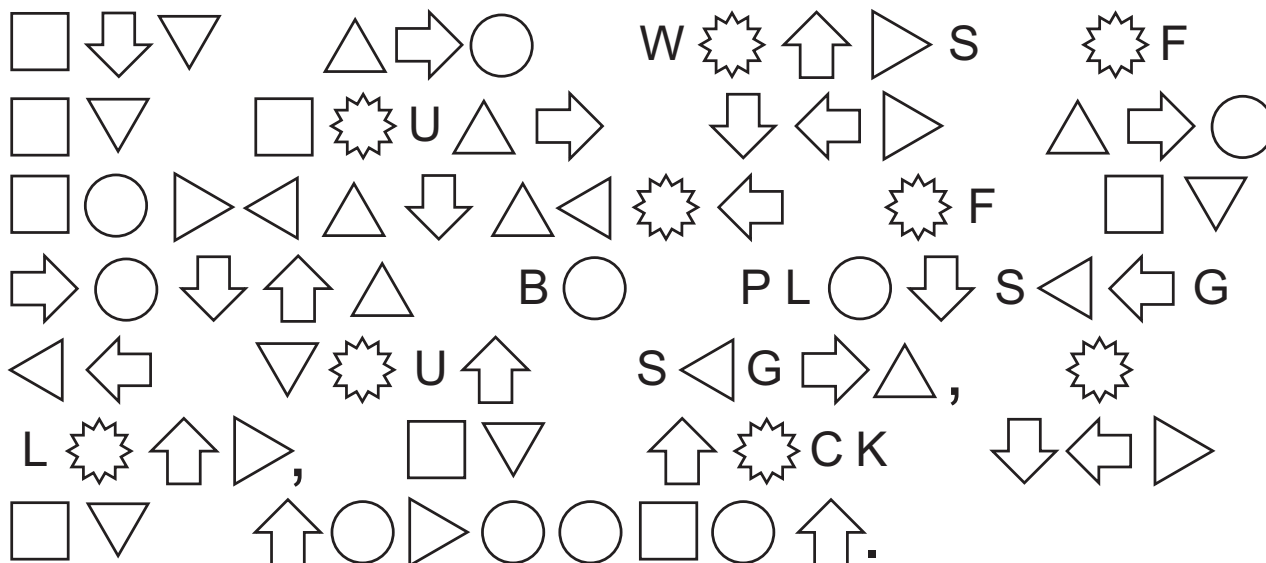
2. In the word FLIGHT, remove the letter that is double in the name of an African animal with a very long neck.

Write the new word: _____

3. In the word JOB, replace the first letter of BUSHY with its last letter. Write the new word: _____

4. In the word REGARD, replace the first letter of GLOW with its last letter. Write the new word: _____

Fill in the shapes with letters according to this key. Read King David's prayer.



Name _____

God's Word is said to be more precious than gold and sweeter than honey.

Find and **circle** these objects in the picture below. Color the picture.



Name _____