

## Lesson 15: Psalm 119:113-120 – *Samekh*

*Reverential Awe for God and His Word Results in a Godly Revulsion of Evildoers*

ESV	NKJV	NASB	NIV	NLT
<b>113 I hate the double-minded, but I love your law.</b>	<b>113 I hate the double-minded, But I love Your law.</b>	<b>113 I hate those who are double-minded, But I love Your law.</b>	<b>113 I hate double-minded men, but I love your law.</b>	<b>113 I hate those with divided loyalties, but I love your instructions.</b>

**113 I hate those who are double-minded (who have divided loyalties), but I love Your law.**

**Commentary:**

**I hate the double-minded.** Double-minded – trying to love both God and the world. Double-mindedness is a sure sign of worldliness.

Colossians 3:1-4

1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

1 John 2:15-17

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Love for the world manifests itself in doing what the world wants you to do (the will of the world vs. the will of God): 1) indulging the desires (lusts) of the flesh (the sinful nature); 2) indulging the desires (lusts) of the eyes (the gateway to the heart—inner man); and 3) feeding materialism (the lust for more things; indulging in sensual pleasures).

Love for the Father manifests itself in doing His will.

Romans 12:1-2

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Matthew 6:24 – “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (The things that money can buy; the things of this world; materialism—the love of things; pleasure.)

Job 31:7b, 9a, 12a – “...if my heart has been led by my eyes... If my heart has been enticed by a woman... It is a fire that burns to Destruction...” (Cp. 31:1-4)

James 1:5-8

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

James 4:8 – “Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” Double-mindedness is a heart issue.

The psalmist’s hatred of double-minded men parallels God’s rejection of the wicked. (Psalm 119:118)

**But I love your law.** Hatred for the double-minded and love for God’s Word go hand-in-hand. They are two sides of the same coin.

The contrast indicates that, unlike double-minded men (who are unstable in all their ways, James 1:8), God and His Word are sure and dependable and therefore worthy of our love, trust and devotion.

“...these are people who should be devoted to the Lord but who allow their loyalties to be divided. The strong terms *hate* and *love* refer not so much to irrational emotions as to deliberate rejection and adherence... see also v. 118, where this reflects God’s own attitude.” (*ESV Study Bible, p. 1099*)

The fear of the Lord is reflected in our attitude toward His Word. Our attitude toward God’s Word is, in essence, our attitude toward Him.

Psalm 119:161 – “Princes persecute me without cause, but my heart stands in awe of your words.”

**Application:**

Double-minded vs. wholehearted. I need to work at not being a double-minded person.

“Lord, I pray that You will deliver me from being a double-minded person. Please help me to become wholehearted and single-minded, wholly devoted to You and Your Word. Help me to look at life in this world from Your perspective.”

**114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.**

**114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word.**

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

**114 You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word.**

**114 You are my refuge and my shield; your word is my source of hope.**

**114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I put my hope in Your word.**

**Commentary:**

**You are my hiding place and my shield.** A place of safety and protection.

**I hope in Your word.** Single-minded devotion to the Word in contrast to double-mindedness (vs. 113). The indivisible connection between God and His Word. To hope in God is to hope in His Word and vice versa.

<b>Application:</b> If I consider the Lord to be my refuge, then I will look to His Word in times of distress and need.				
<b>115 Depart from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my God.</b>	<b>115 Depart from me, you evildoers, For I will keep the commandments of my God!</b>	<b>115 Depart from me, evildoers, That I may observe the commandments of my God.</b>	<b>115 Away from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commands of my God!</b>	<b>115 Get out of my life, you evil-minded people, for I intend to obey the commands of my God.</b>
<b>115 Depart (get away) from me you evildoers, that I may obey the commands of my God!</b>				
<p><b>Commentary:</b>  <b>Depart from me, you evildoers.</b>  <u>Psalm 1:1-2</u>  1 Blessed is the man  who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  nor stands in the way of sinners,  nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  and on his law he meditates day and night.  His desire for evildoers to get away from him parallels God’s discarding the wicked in vs. 119.  <b>That I may keep the commandments of my God.</b> Participating with evildoers prohibits obedience to God’s Word.</p>				
<b>Application:</b> I cannot love both God’s Word and the ways of the wicked. I will love and serve one or the other.				
<b>116 Uphold me according to your promise, that I may live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope!</b>	<b>116 Uphold me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.</b>	<b>116 Sustain me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.</b>	<b>116 Sustain me according to your promise, and I will live; do not let my hopes be dashed.</b>	<b>116 Lord, sustain me as you promised, that I may live! Do not let my hope be crushed.</b>
<b>116 Hold me up (sustain me) according to the promises of Your Word, that I may live; do not let me be ashamed of my hope.</b>				
<p><b>Commentary:</b>  <b>Uphold me according to your promise.</b> An attitude of faith in and dependence on the promises of the Lord. God’s Word sustains us in times of despair.  <b>That I may live.</b> Spiritual life, revival, comes from the Word. Matthew 4:4 – “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”</p>				

<b>And let me not be put to shame in my hope.</b> Those who hope and trust in the Lord will never be put to shame because He is completely trustworthy.				
<b>Application:</b> “Thank You for the strength that I get from feeding on, spending time in, Your Word. Thank You for being completely trustworthy.”				
<b>117 Hold me up, that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continually!</b>	<b>117 Hold me up, and I shall be safe, And I shall observe Your statutes continually.</b>	<b>117 Uphold me that I may be safe, That I may have regard for Your statutes continually.</b>	<b>117 Uphold me, and I will be delivered; I will always have regard for your decrees.</b>	<b>117 Sustain me, and I will be rescued; then I will meditate continually on your decrees.</b>
<b>117 Hold me up (sustain me), that I may be safe; then I will always have regard for (continually meditate on and obey) Your statutes.</b>				
<b>Commentary:</b> <b>That I may... have regard for your statutes continually.</b> “Then, I will continually pay attention to and meditate on Your statutes.”				
<b>Application:</b> Reflecting on God’s faithfulness motivates me to continually obey His Word.				
<b>118 You spurn all who go astray from your statutes, for their cunning is in vain.</b>	<b>118 You reject all those who stray from Your statutes, For their deceit is falsehood.</b>	<b>118 You have rejected all those who wander from Your statutes, For their deceitfulness is useless.</b>	<b>118 You reject all who stray from your decrees, for their deceitfulness is in vain.</b>	<b>118 But you have rejected all who stray from your decrees. They are only fooling themselves.</b>
<b>118 You reject all who stray from Your statutes; their deceitfulness is useless (they are only fooling / deceiving themselves).</b>				
<b>Commentary:</b> <b>You spurn all who go astray from your statutes.</b> Disobedience is a serious matter!				
<b>Application:</b> “Therefore, I will not stray from your decrees.”				
<b>119 All the wicked of the earth you discard like dross, therefore I love your testimonies.</b>	<b>119 You put away all the wicked of the earth like dross; Therefore I love Your testimonies.</b>	<b>119 You have removed all the wicked of the earth like dross; Therefore I love Your testimonies.</b>	<b>119 All the wicked of the earth you discard like dross; therefore I love your statutes.</b>	<b>119 You skim off the wicked of the earth like scum; no wonder I love to obey your laws!</b>
<b>119 You discard all the wicked of the earth like scum; therefore, I love Your laws.</b>				

**Commentary:**

**All the wicked of the earth you discard like dross.** God is not willing that any would perish, but there is a limit. This describes the disposition of God’s holy nature, not necessarily the timing of when He finally takes action against the wicked.

John 3:36 – “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.” A present reality.

**Application:**

<b>120 My flesh trembles for fear of you, and I am afraid of your judgments.</b>	<b>120 My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your judgments.</b>	<b>120 My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your judgments.</b>	<b>120 My flesh trembles in fear of you; I stand in awe of your laws.</b>	<b>120 I tremble in fear of you; I stand in awe of your regulations.</b>
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**120 I tremble in fear of You, and I am afraid (stand in awe) of Your judgments (laws).**

**Commentary:**

**My flesh trembles for fear of you.** The fear of the Lord is reflected in our attitude toward His Word. Our attitude toward God’s Word is, in essence, our attitude toward God Himself. Cp. vs. 161.

The fear of the Lord will deliver us from being double-minded (vs. 113)

**Application:** “Please help me to develop this kind of healthy fear (reverential awe and respect) of You and Your Word.”

**Samekh**

**113 I hate those who are double-minded (who have divided loyalties), but I love Your law.**

**114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I put my hope in Your word.**

**115 Depart (get away) from me you evildoers, that I may obey the commands of my God!**

**116 Hold me up (sustain me) according to the promises of Your Word, that I may live; do not let me be ashamed of my hope.**

**117 Hold me up (sustain me), that I may be safe; then I will always have regard for (continually meditate on and obey) Your statutes.**

**118 You reject all who stray from Your statutes; their deceitfulness is useless (they are only fooling / deceiving themselves).**

**119 You discard all the wicked of the earth like scum; therefore, I love Your laws.**

**120 I tremble in fear of You, and I am afraid (stand in awe) of Your judgments (laws).**