

## Lesson 16: Psalm 119:121-128 – *Ayin*

### *Prayer for Deliverance from Arrogant Oppressors*

<i>ESV</i>	<i>NKJV</i>	<i>NASV</i>	<i>NIV</i>	<i>NLT</i>
<b>121 I have done what is just and right; do not leave me to my oppressors.</b>	<b>121 I have done justice and righteousness; Do not leave me to my oppressors.</b>	<b>121 I have done justice and righteousness; Do not leave me to my oppressors.</b>	<b>121 I have done what is righteous and just; do not leave me to my oppressors.</b>	<b>121 Don't leave me to the mercy of my enemies, for I have done what is just and right.</b>
<b>121 I have done what is just and right; so do not abandon me to my oppressors.</b>				
<p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p><b>I have done what is just and right.</b> In response to God’s Word, the writer pursued righteousness and justice. In Christ, God has declared us to be righteous and just. Positional righteousness should manifest itself in practical righteousness in our daily lives.</p> <p><b>What is just and right.</b> As defined by God’s law.</p> <p><b>Do not leave me to my oppressors.</b> “As your faithful servant I pray for deliverance from my oppressors...” (<i>NIV Study Bible, p. 919</i>)</p> <p>God is our Defender from those who would oppress us.</p>				
<b>Application:</b> “Thank You, Lord, for protecting me from those who would oppress me.”				
<b>122 Give your servant a pledge of good; let not the insolent oppress me.</b>	<b>122 Be surety for Your servant for good; Do not let the proud oppress me.</b>	<b>122 Be surety for Your servant for good; Do not let the arrogant oppress me.</b>	<b>122 Ensure your servant's well-being; let not the arrogant oppress me.</b>	<b>122 Please guarantee a blessing for me. Don't let the arrogant oppress me!</b>
<b>122 Please guarantee Your servant’s well-being; do not allow those who are proud and arrogant to oppress me.</b>				
<p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p><b>Give your servant a pledge of good.</b> In Christ we are servants of God. Our well-being is in His hands.</p> <p><b>Let not the insolent oppress me.</b> Nothing can come into our life that God does not allow. Cp. Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6.</p> <p>The psalmist could pray and request these benefits because of his attitudes and activities in response to God’s Word.</p> <p>Righteous living gave the writer a holy boldness and confidence before the Lord.</p> <p><b>The arrogant.</b> (<i>NIV</i>) “Those who are a law to themselves, most fully described in 10:2-11 (see vv. 51,69,78,85...) The author has suffered much from their hostility because of his zeal for God and his law...” (<i>NIV Study Bible, note on Psalm 119:21, p. 915</i>)</p>				

“Those who refuse to live in humble reliance on the Lord. They arrogantly try to make their way in the world either as a law to themselves... or by relying on false gods... Hence ‘the proud’ is often equivalent to ‘the wicked.’” (NIV Study Bible, note on Psalm 31:23, p. 815)

**Application:** “Thank You, Lord, for the privilege of being Your servant. There is no greater honor. Thank You that You are in control of the circumstances of my life.”

**123 My eyes long for your salvation and for the fulfillment of your righteous promise.**

**123 My eyes fail from seeking Your salvation And Your righteous word.**

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

**123 My eyes fail, looking for your salvation, looking for your righteous promise.**

**123 My eyes strain to see your rescue, to see the truth of your promise fulfilled.**

**123 My eyes fail, longing for Your deliverance, and for the fulfillment of Your righteous promise.**

**Commentary:**

**My eyes fail, looking for your salvation.** (NIV) “In the vivid language of the OT the eyes are dimmed by failing strength... by grief (often associated with affliction...) and by longings unsatisfied or hope deferred...” (NIV Study Bible, note on Psalm 6:7, pp. 791-92)

An attitude of complete dependence on the Lord. Searching God’s Word, looking for His promises to claim for his circumstances.

**And for the fulfillment of your righteous promise.** God is always faithful to fulfill His promises to us but not always on our timetable or in the manner we think best. There are valuable spiritual lessons to be learned while we wait on the Lord. He is not a “candy machine” doling out sweets upon demand!

**Application:**

“Thank You, Lord, that Your Word is trustworthy, dependable and righteous. Please help me to depend on You for all that I need.”

**124 Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love, and teach me your statutes.**

**124 Deal with Your servant according to Your mercy, And teach me Your statutes.**

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

**124 Deal with your servant according to your love and teach me your decrees.**

**124 I am your servant; deal with me in unfailing love, and teach me your decrees.**

**124 Deal with Your servant according to Your unfailing love and mercy and teach me Your statutes.**

**Commentary:**

**Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love.** An attitude of dependence and trust in the Lord's steadfast, unfailing love developed from his time in the Word.

**And teach me your statutes.** Request for the Lord to teach him. What a privilege to have God as our Teacher! The Author of the Word is also the Teacher of the Word.

<p><b>Application:</b>          “Thank You, Lord, for Your steadfast love and mercy.”          I deserve nothing but the wrath of God, not His love. “Lord, thank You that You do not deal with me according to my sins.”          Psalm 103:10 – “He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.”          “Thank You for being my Teacher. Please teach me Your Word and ways and help me to walk in them faithfully.”</p>				
<p><b>125 I am your servant; give me understanding, that I may know your testimonies!</b></p>	<p><b>125 I am Your servant; Give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.</b></p>	<p><b>125 I am Your servant; give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.</b></p>	<p><b>125 I am your servant; give me discernment that I may understand your statutes.</b></p>	<p><b>125 Give discernment to me, your servant; then I will understand your laws.</b></p>
<p><b>125 I am Your servant; give me discernment that I may know and understand Your testimonies.</b></p>				
<p><b>Commentary:</b> Wisdom, discernment and understanding are gifts from God.</p>				
<p><b>Application:</b>          It is right to ask for discernment and understanding from the Lord but I also have the responsibility to seek discernment and understanding in the study and contemplation of God’s Word.          “Thank You for the privilege of being Your servant. I do not deserve this honor!”</p>				
<p><b>126 It is time for the Lord to act, for your law has been broken.</b></p>	<p><b>126 It is time for You to act, O Lord, For they have regarded Your law as void.</b></p>	<p><b>126 It is time for the Lord to act, For they have broken Your law.</b></p>	<p><b>126 It is time for you to act, O Lord; your law is being broken.</b></p>	<p><b>126 Lord, it is time for you to act, for these evil people have violated your instructions.</b></p>
<p><b>126 It is time for You to act, O Lord, because Your law is being broken.</b></p>				
<p><b>Commentary:</b>  <b>It is time for the Lord to act.</b> “Either in defense of his servant, or in judgment on the lawbreakers, or both.” (<i>NIV Study Bible, p. 920</i>)          An attitude of impatience and righteous indignation toward those who are breaking God’s law. Not a self-righteous, hypocritical, judgmental, holier-than-thou attitude; genuine righteous indignation such as was demonstrated by the Lord toward those who were breaking God’s law.          We want God to execute His justice and righteousness against the wicked forgetting that He is longsuffering and compassionate toward them, as He was toward us.          2 Peter 3:9 – “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.”</p>				

**For your law has been broken.** We need to be compassionate and tolerant toward others. At the same time, we should not “sweep sin under the carpet” and “look the other way.” Tolerance does not mean acceptance nor endorsement.

**Application:**

“Please help me to not be self-centered in my longing for You to come and bring judgment upon Your enemies. Your coming (the Rapture) will result in my OWN judgment (at the Judgment Seat of Christ). Help me to be compassionate and tolerant toward others as You are compassionate and merciful toward me.”

<b>127 Therefore I love your commandments above gold, above fine gold.</b>	<b>127 Therefore I love Your commandments More than gold, yes, than fine gold!</b>	<b>127 Therefore I love Your commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold.</b>	<b>127 Because I love your commands more than gold, more than pure gold,</b>	<b>127 Truly, I love your commands more than gold, even the finest gold.</b>
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**127 Truly, I love Your commands more than gold, more than the purest gold.**

**Commentary:** See vss. 14 and 72.

**Application:** “Please help me to love You and Your Word more than anything else this world has to offer.”

<b>128 Therefore I consider all your precepts to be right; I hate every false way.</b>	<b>128 Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way.</b>	<b>128 Therefore I esteem right all Your precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way.</b>	<b>128 and because I consider all your precepts right, I hate every wrong path.</b>	<b>128 Each of your commandments is right. That is why I hate every false way.</b>
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**128 Therefore, I consider all Your precepts to be right. That is why I hate every false path.**

**Commentary:**

**I hate every false way.** The path of righteousness vs. the path of wickedness (false way, wrong path).

**Application:** “Please help me to truly hate every false and evil path.”

**Ayin**

**121 I have done what is just and right; so do not abandon me to my oppressors.**

**122 Please guarantee Your servant’s well-being; do not allow those who are proud and arrogant to oppress me.**

**123 My eyes fail, longing for Your deliverance, and for the fulfillment of Your righteous promise.**

**124 Deal with Your servant according to Your unfailing love and mercy and teach me Your statutes.**

**125 I am Your servant; give me discernment that I may know and understand Your testimonies.**

**126 It is time for You to act, O Lord, because Your law is being broken.**

**127 Truly, I love Your commands more than gold, more than the purest gold.**

**128 Therefore, I consider all Your precepts to be right. That is why I hate every false path.**