

**Lesson 6: Psalm 119:41-48 – Waw**

*A Prayer for Freedom in Sharing God’s Word*

<i>ESV</i>	<i>NKJV</i>	<i>NASB</i>	<i>NIV</i>	<i>NLT</i>
<b>41 Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise;</b>	<b>41 Let Your mercies come also to me, O Lord — Your salvation according to Your word.</b>	<b>41 May Your lovingkindnesses also come to me, O Lord, Your salvation according to Your word;</b>	<b>41 May your unfailing love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise;</b>	<b>41 Lord, give me your unfailing love, the salvation that you promised me.</b>

**41 May Your steadfast (unfailing) love and mercies come to me, O Lord, Your salvation according to the promises of Your Word.**

**Commentary:**

**Let your steadfast love come to me.** The psalmist prays that he might experience God’s unfailing love and deliverance in accordance with the promises of His Word.

**May your unfailing love come to me, O Lord (NIV).** God’s “unfailing love” is manifested ultimately in the cross of Christ. He continues to show His love for us on a daily basis. Our love for Him frequently fails and falls short but His love for us never fails.

**May Thy lovingkindness also come to me, O Lord (NASB).** We need the mercy and compassion of the Lord every day.

“It is the genuine experience of God’s grace and mercy that impels the faithful to seek his moral guidance.” (*ESV Study Bible, p. 1095*)

Cp. 119:77 – “Let your mercy come to me, that I may live...”

Through disobedience and indifference to the Lord and His Word, we can get ourselves into a place where we need God’s love, mercy and deliverance to come to us, to seek us out. We just don’t have the energy or ability to arise and go to the Lord. “I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments” (119:176). By ourselves, we cannot save ourselves or deliver ourselves from our own prodigal condition (the reckless and complete indulgence of the evil desires of the sinful nature). We need the Lord to come to us.

**Let thy mercies come also unto me, O Lord (KJV).** “That is, let thy mercy be manifested to me; let me experience thy mercy and thy favor” (*Barnes’ Notes*).

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
 His mercies never come to an end;  
 They are new every morning, new every morning;  
 Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord;  
 Great is Thy faithfulness.                      (*--Jim Gilbert*)

**Your salvation according to your promise.** “Let me have thy salvation—such a deliverance as it becomes thy greatness and goodness to impart. Let it be according to thy word—thy exceeding great and precious promises” (*Adam Clarke’s Commentary*).

God’s gift of salvation and deliverance flows from His unfailing love, His unlimited grace, and His unfathomable mercy.

**God speaking to us (v. 41).** “He does this, of course, as we read His Word and meditate on it. He speaks in love and in mercy, and even the warnings come from His compassionate heart. The Word of God is the expression of the love of God to us (33:11) and it should result in love from our hearts to the Lord, to His people, and to the lost. God’s Word shares God’s promises, and promises always imply future hope. Scripture is ‘the word of his promise’ (1 Kings 8:56), and all His promises have their realization in Jesus Christ (2 Cor 1:20). The Scriptures are also ‘the word of this salvation’ (Acts 13:26), for the Word declares that Jesus is the only Savior and we can trust in Him. What a wonder that God has spoken to us! (Heb 1:1-2). Are we listening?” (*Wiersbe, Bible Exposition Commentary*)

**Application:**

“Dear Lord, thank You so much for Your unfailing love. Thank You that Your love for me does not fluctuate, that You are consistent, constant, unchanging, invariable, steady and reliable. Please forgive me that my love for You is so inconsistent. I frequently fail to love You as I ought.”  
 “Thank You, Lord, that Your love for me is steadfast and unfailing. Thank You for the free gift of Your salvation and all the precious promises of Your Word.”

<p><b>42 then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in your word.</b></p>	<p><b>42 So shall I have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.</b></p>	<p><b>42 So I will have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.</b></p>	<p><b>42 then I will answer the one who taunts me, for I trust in your word.</b></p>	<p><b>42 Then I can answer those who taunt me, for I trust in your word.</b></p>
---	---	--	--	--

**42 Then I will be able to answer him who taunts me, for I trust in Your Word.**

**Commentary:**

**Then I will answer the one who taunts me.** (*NIV*) God’s blessing on a person’s life enables him, not to ignore, but to put the taunts and criticisms of others into proper perspective.

“Thus equipped, a man shall know how to answer effectually him that derides him, for his wisdom is not his own ingenuity but the Word that God gave him.” (*Leupold, Exposition, pp. 832-33*)

Satan, the accuser of the brethren—his lies and accusations. That inner voice (the “tapes”) that continually run us down, accusing us; low self-esteem. Guilt. The only real answer is that which comes from the Word of God.

**So I shall have an answer for him who reproaches me** (*NASB*). God’s grace and mercy to us is our response to the devil who continually accuses us. It is our only response for, too often, the accusations are true!

**For I trust in your word.** Will we listen to and trust in the Word of God or the lies of Satan?

Trust – firm reliance on the integrity, ability, or character of a person or thing; to have or to place confidence in; to depend on; to expect with assurance; to believe; faith. A feeling of certainty that a person or thing will not fail. (*The American Heritage Dictionary*)

Trust is the foundation of hope. (cp. vs. 43)

Trust is unwavering confidence.

**Application:**

The only one I can think of who taunts me is the devil. “Thank You, Lord, that You and Your Word are greater than the devil and his accusations against me. Thank You, Jesus, for being my Advocate against the taunts and accusations of the devil.”

1 John 2:1-2 – “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.”

“Please help me to trust in You and the promises of Your Word more and more.”

**43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your rules.**

**43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, For I have hoped in Your ordinances.**

**43 And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, For I wait for Your ordinances.**

**43 Do not snatch the word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my hope in your laws.**

**43 Do not snatch your word of truth from me, for your regulations are my only hope.**

**43 And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in Your laws.**

**Commentary:**

**And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth (NASB).** Though this is what we deserve as a punishment for our sinfulness. Cp. Romans 1 where God punishes those who reject Him by turning them over to their own depravity and sin.

**For I have put my hope in your laws. (NIV)** It is foolish to put your hope in the things of this world. It is becoming more and more clear that this world only offers false hope; it is not worthy of our trust or hope.

**Application:** “Please do not take Your Word from me due to my sin, failures and disobedience. You and Your Word are my only hope.”

**44 I will keep your law continually, forever and ever,**

**44 So shall I keep Your law continually, Forever and ever.**

**44 So I will keep Your law continually, Forever and ever.**

**44 I will always obey your law, for ever and ever.**

**44 I will keep on obeying your instructions forever and ever.**

**44 I will always obey Your law, forever and ever,**

**Commentary:**

**I will always obey your law, for ever and ever. (NIV)** The psalmist’s commitment to obey God’s Word.

“I shall pursue this ambition throughout my life.” (Leupold, *Exposition*, p. 833)

**Application:** “Lord, this is my desire, that I will always be obedient to Your Word.”

<b>45 and I shall walk in a wide place, for I have sought your precepts.</b>	<b>45 And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.</b>	<b>45 And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.</b>	<b>45 I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.</b>	<b>45 I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments.</b>
--	---	---	--	---

**45 And I will walk about in freedom, for I seek out (I have devoted myself to) Your precepts.**

**Commentary:**

**I will walk about in freedom.** (NIV) "Our misdeeds, which are contrary to the law, entangle us in all manner of difficulties. Free, unhampered going (v. 45) is enjoyed only by the man who has always sought both to know and to do the Lord's precepts." (Leupold, *Exposition*, p. 833)

True freedom is found in obedience to God's Word, in living as God designed us to live, in submission to Him. Obedience brings freedom; disobedience brings bondage. Obedience sets us free from slavery to the evil desires of our sinful nature.

**Application:**

"Please help me to grow more and more devoted to Your Word and to experience the freedom You came to give me."

John 8:31-37

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

<b>46 I will also speak of your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame,</b>	<b>46 I will speak of Your testimonies also before kings, And will not be ashamed.</b>	<b>46 I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings And shall not be ashamed.</b>	<b>46 I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame,</b>	<b>46 I will speak to kings about your laws, and I will not be ashamed.</b>
---	--	--	--	---

**46 I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame,**

**Commentary:**

**I will speak of your statutes before kings.** (NIV) Knowledge of God's Word and obedience to the Word equipped him to feel confident in speaking even to national leaders.

Cp. Ezra 7:9-10 – "...for the good hand of his God was on him. For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel."

"Should the opportunity ever present itself to testify to the excellency of God's Word and law, I shall by no means hesitate, and I refuse to be ashamed... The second half of the verse expresses a resolve rather than a result." (Leupold, *Exposition*, p. 833)

**And shall not be put to shame.** Because he was competent to speak of God's Word accurately to others.

Acts 18:24-26

“24 Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. 25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. 26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him and explained to him the way of God more accurately.”

2 Timothy 2:15 – “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

**Application:**

Am I sufficiently well acquainted with God’s Word that I can confidently speak of it to others?

“Thank You for the honor and privilege of speaking of Your Word to others. (Heb. 5:12) Forgive me for not appreciating this honor as much as I should. Please help me to speak forth Your Word boldly and accurately.”

<b>47 for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love.</b>	<b>47 And I will delight myself in Your commandments, Which I love.</b>	<b>47 I shall delight in Your commandments, Which I love.</b>	<b>47 for I delight in your commands because I love them.</b>	<b>47 How I delight in your commands! How I love them!</b>
---	---	---	---	--

**47 For I delight in Your commandments, because I love them.**

**Commentary:**

**I delight in your commands because I love them.** (NIV) “...the joy that is experienced when a man busies himself with the Lord’s commandments, which he loves. No occupation can be more delightful than this.” (Leupold, *Exposition*, p. 833)

**Application:**

“Lord, please cause this to be true in my life, that I delight in Your Word and that I love Your Word more and more. Forgive me for ignoring it, taking it for granted, allowing my heart to grow cold toward You and Your Word.”

<b>48 I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.</b>	<b>48 My hands also I will lift up to Your commandments, Which I love, And I will meditate on Your statutes.</b>	<b>48 And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love; And I will meditate on Your statutes.</b>	<b>48 I lift up my hands to your commands, which I love, and I meditate on your decrees.</b>	<b>48 I honor and love your commands. I meditate on your decrees.</b>
---	--	--	--	---

**48 I will lift up my hands to Your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on Your statutes.**

**Commentary:**

**I lift up my hands to your commands, which I love.** *NIV* "We have sought to express the meaning of the gesture of stretching forth the hands by inserting the adverb 'longingly.' For a man does stretch forth his hands for that which he longs for. Thus he desires what he does not yet know and 'meditates' on that which he has acquired." (*Leupold, Exposition, p. 833*)

**And I meditate on your decrees.** (*NIV*) A person meditates on that which he loves.

**Application:**

"Dear Lord, please help me to have a greater longing for You and Your Word. Help me to love You more. May the meditations of my heart and mind be pleasing to You."

***Waw***

**41 May Your steadfast (unfailing) love and mercies come to me, O Lord, Your salvation according to the promises of Your Word.**

**42 Then I will be able to answer him who taunts me, for I trust in Your Word.**

**43 And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in Your laws.**

**44 I will always obey Your law, forever and ever,**

**45 And I will walk about in freedom, for I seek out (I have devoted myself to) Your precepts.**

**46 I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame,**

**47 For I delight in Your commandments, because I love them.**

**48 I will lift up my hands to Your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on Your statutes.**