Section 12, Lamed, Part 1 – God's Everlasting Faithfulness

In section 11 (Caph), part 2, we learned how the Assyrian delegates metaphorically 'dug pits' for Hezekiah by waging an *intense* physiological warfare against his army protecting Jerusalem. For they not only called Hezekiah a *liar,* and warned the military men they'd end up drinking their own piss, and eating their own poo (and eventually die by starvation) if they didn't surrender to the Assyrians (2 Kings 18:27), they also said many other things to try and demoralize Jerusalem's army into surrendering to them (2 Chron 32:18). And, Hezekiah also continued to ask the Lord (YHVH) to help him from the 'Assyrian threat' by pointing out that they were wrongfully persecuting him (in disobedience to God's Laws) and he truly felt like this life was 'hanging in the balance' (almost consumed upon the earth). That's why Hezekiah also asked for the Lord (YHVH) to 'quicken him', i.e. to give him the energy, and inner comfort, needed to endure the hard times. Yet, despite the hard times (and inner turmoil he was going through), Hezekiah continued to serve the Lord (YHVH) *faithfully*, for He knew that all of God's Laws are *faithful* because they are *true* and *trustworthy* - for our Heavenly Father is *always* faithful to bless (and protect) us when we obey them. And that's an excellent example for us to follow!

And now we come to the ***twelfth*** 'section' of this beautiful Acrostic Psalm. So, all the verses begin with the Hebrew letter "Lamed", which is equivalent to the letter "L" in the English language (the *Companion Bible* points this out). And *this* section is about "**Yehovah and His Word".** So, while the entire Psalm speaks about the "*Quickening and Sustaining, by the Revealing [Written] Word*" (Deut 8:3; Luke 4:4; Matt 4:4), this particular section *really focuses* on Hezekiah praising Yehovah and His 'quickening' (Living *and* revitalizing) Word. And let's also remember that, it's most likely king Hezekiah who penned this Psalm, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, of course. And, *all scripture is given by inspiration of God, **and** is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works* (2 Tim 3:12-17). So, there is much for us to learn from this precious Acrostic Psalm…

Psalm 119
89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

So, Hezekiah is now beginning to praise our Heavenly Father. The words '**for ever**' means ***concealed***, i.e. ***the vanishing point to time out of mind*** (past or future), or (practically) ***eternity*** and can also mean ***always*** (#5769). And then the word '**Lord**' here is (again) God's sacred (and covenantal) name **Yehovah** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946] which means (the) ***self-Existent*** or ***Eternal*** (#3068). So, His name *reveals* that our Heavenly Father (Yehovah) is the *only* one who has *always* existed and *always* will, which is why He is *eternal* (Rev 1:8, 4:9, 11:17, 16:5, 22:13). And the *Companion Bible* notes that these words are being used as a figure of speech (*Ellipsis*, apx 6), which is when a gap is *purposely* left in a sentence through the omission of

some word, or words. So, this first part of this verse should read, "For ever [art Thou], O Yehovah [forever] Thy word". And the word '**word**' again means ***a word*** or (by implication), ***a matter*** (as spoken of) or ***a thing*** and (adverbially) or even ***a cause*** (#1697*) while the word '**settled**' means ***to station***, in various applications (literally or figuratively, #5324). And, the *Companion Bible* also has notes on this explaining that, it could (or should) be rendered as '***standeth fast'*** or '***endures forever***'. And the word '**heaven**' means ***the sky***, *as aloft* - the dual perhaps alluding to ***the visible arch in which the clouds move***, as well as to ***the higher ether where the celestial bodies revolve***, i.e. 'outer space'. So, Hezekiah praises our Heavenly Father by using His Sacred (and Covenant) name, Yehovah (YHVH) to point out that He is the *only* eternal One in existence. And then, he also points out that God's Word is *also* eternal because His Word is 'settled' (stationed, i.e. stands fast and endures forever) in the heavens above. Now, we learned about this also back in Psalm 19, where David wrote…

1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.
4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,
Ps 19:1-4

So, the heavens themselves declare (i.e. talk about) God's glory. And that means the heavens (i.e. the sun, moon and stars) *speak to us* about God Almighty's glory. In other words, we can see a bit of His Glory when the sun shines brightly (Mth 17:2; Rev 1:16, etc.) and when, on a clear night, the stars, and moon, shine so very brightly *and* beautifully. And if you've ever watched a 'meteor shower' and seen the beauty of 'falling stars', it also leaves one in amazement for the beauty of God's creation. This alone is enough to 'declare' God's glory to us mere humans! But, as the *Companion Bible* notes, the word 'declare' can even be rendered as 'rehearse', implying that the sun, moon and stars are purposely set up (by God) to be repetitious *because*, in the process of their revolving around the sun, ***they all 'tell a story' about God's glory*** via the Zodiac. And one of the main things they tell us is, the fact that our Heavenly Father is *constantly* reliable, which James 1:17 also reminds us of. And, of course, that means He is the *only* one we can *truly* count on, *always* and *forever*. And that's why the word 'settled' (here in Ps 119:89) means 'to station' (#5324) - it's because we can *always* count on the sun, moon and stars to continue to 'come up' and 'go down' *every day,* just as they have since the beginning of this earth age. In fact, so constant are the sun, moon, and stars that God even used them to express the steadfastness of His covenant with Abraham, Issac and Jacob - when He promised that their seed would grow into an *uncountable number* (like the stars of the sky), spread across the earth, and taking dominion over it, and that they would also be a blessing to all nations (Gen 12:1-7, Gen 13:14-17, Gen 15:4-5, 18-21, Gen 17:1-11,15-21, Gen 22:15-18, Gen 26:2-5, Gen 28:10-15, Gen 35:9-13).

And, this promise also included the Messiah, Jesus Christ, coming from *their* descendants, which is *how* the whole world will ultimately be 'blessed' by Israel; but Israel was *also* to take God's Word (and the Gospel of Jesus Christ) to the world (Mth 28:18-20), which has indeed been a blessing to *all* nations (people in those nations) *who receive it*. So, these promises – that their children would grow into an *uncountable* number, spread throughout the earth, take the Gospel forth, and that the *entire* world will be blessed by Jesus Christ (both His First and Second Advents) – *are as faithful as the heavens above* which consistently (always) come and go each morning and night, without fail. And thus, God's Word, and the promises within it, are also without fail. If we obey Him, we'll be blessed. If we disobey Him, we'll be cursed. If we earnestly seek, and obey Him, He'll show mercy and grace upon us (forgive our sins) *and* give us eternal life. If we disobey Him, we'll be blotted out of existence after the Millennium. *These promises are as steadfast as the heavenly bodies themselves*. You can learn more about this in the written study on Psalm 19, part 2, via this link [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/189].

Therefore, the heavens *also* declare God's glory *because* they teach us (via the constellations in the Zodiac) God's plan of Salvation, which *includes* the glory that Jesus Christ had when He overcame death (His resurrection) as well as the glory He'll have when He returns to earth to take *complete* control over all that's in heaven *and* earth. Thus, the heavens and firmament above do speak, and show knowledge, to the *entire* world *because* pictures are a 'universal language'. Therefore, the 'pictures' of the constellations in the Zodiac indeed to speak, and teach, the *entire* world about our Heavenly Father *and* His Savior, i.e. they teach us God's plan of Salvation through Jesus Christ. And, since there's no place in the world they do not 'speak', *all* nations *throughout all time* have had this 'testimony' to learn from. You can learn more about the Zodiac in the book on the ***Witness of the stars***, via this link [https://t.me/BestStudyBible/14].

So, God's Word is indeed 'settled' (stationed, stans fast and endures forever) in the heavens above (even the Zodiac), which other Scriptures declare as well (Ps 102:12, 26; Isa 40:8; Lk 16:17 and 1 Pt 1:25). But that's not all, for Jesus Christ (**who IS the Living Word**, John 1:1, 14, 12:34, etc.) also dwells in 'heaven' (at God's right hand, Ps 110:1, Matt 26:64, Acts 2:32-36, Acts 7:55-56, Rom 8:34, Eph 1:20-23, Col 3:1, Heb 1:1-3, Heb 8:1, Heb 10:10-13, Heb 12:3, 1 Peter 3:21-22) to intercede for us (Rom 8:26-34)! And that's why the latter part of Psalm 19 speaks of God's *Written* Word, after it spoke of God's Word *written in the heavens*, as the first part of Psalm 19 explains [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/183]. So, the part of the 'heavens' (sky and outer space) we can see, and the part we cannot see (the *spiritual* dimension where God, and Jesus Christ, dwell in), ***both*** *decare* God's glory *and* God's Word, i.e. the truth (in a way we *can* see, and *cannot* see) and, are *both* 'settled' (stationed, stand fast, endureth forever) in heaven too!

Psalm 119
90 Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

91 They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants.

Now, while the prior verse (89) spoke about God's Word being *eternal* and *established* in the heavens, these verses speaks about His faithfulness being *eternal* and the earth being *established*. The word '**faithfulness**' here means ***firmness***, (figuratively) ***security*** or, (morally) ***fidelity*** (#530) and it was used *seven* times back in Psalm 89, when praising the Lord (YHVH) for His unfailing faithfulness [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/1105]. And then the word '**generations**' means ***a revolution of time***, i.e. ***an age or generation*** as well as ***a dwelling*** (#1755).

So, the Psalmist (Hezekiah) now points out that our Heavenly Father's faithfulness to His Word **continues** throughout all generations. As He swore, in Ex 34:6-7, He **is** *merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth* unto all generations **that** fear, love and obey Him. But, He's also *just as* faithful to punish those who rebel against Him, without repentance too… unto all generations that *continue* to do so! In other words, the Lord's (YHVH's) faithfulness (to perform His Word) is to each and every generation (nationally speaking) *and* each individual person too. However, how He deals with us is up to us! And that simply means, He's not a 'respecter of persons' (Deut 1:17, Acts 10:34, Rom 2:11, 1 Pt 1:17, John 12:46-48, Col 3:24-25). He's always faithful (and consistent) with His Word. So, no matter what generation (or nation) we live in, He's always faithful to deal with us (individually *and* as a nation) according to how we behave. As Peter so well said, *God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him* (Acts 10:34-35). And, even when Jesus Christ returns, He will still be judging this way, i.e. by His righteous, and faithful, Word (John 12:48).

And then (still in verse 90), Hezekiah wrote that, "***thou hast established the earth, and it abideth***". The word '**established**' is a prim root that means ***to be erect*** (i.e. ***stand perpendicular***), hence (causatively) ***to set up***, in a great variety of applications - whether literal (***establish, fix, prepare, apply***), or figurative (***appoint, render sure, proper or prosperous***) (#3559). And the word '**earth**' either means ***the earth at large***, or ***a partitively*** (part of) ***a land*** (#776) and, interestingly, comes from an unused root that means *to be firm* (#776). In the context of this verse, it is certainly speaking of the earth *at large*. So, Hezekiah's simply acknowledging that our Heavenly Father created the earth *and* set it up so that it (along with the moon and stars and other planets) rotates around the sun. And, when God originally created it (Gen 1:1), the earth was indeed *totally* upright. However, because of the 'great shaking' during the first earth age (which Peter calls the 'world that then was', in 1 Pt 3), the earth is currently not set *totally* upright (i.e. erect) - for (as you've likely learned when a child) it's actually *tilted*, i.e. *it's off its original axis*. And that 'tilt' is *what* causes the jet streams, and storms, that give us some rather bad weather at times. But, as Genesis 1:2 tells us, the earth was *not originally created this way*. It became 'void and without form' (which means a wasted land, i.e. an undistinguishable ruin). And that's because God 'shook' the earth *so greatly* that the earth was knocked off its *original* axis, which is

why magnetic north and truth north *are different*, to this very day. To learn more about this (and get Biblical *documentation* for it), check out the studies below…

Genesis Chapter 1 https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Genesis/21
In The Beginning, The World That Then Was https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/496
The Three World Ages https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/488
Psalms 96, part 4 https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/1261

So, while the earth kind of wobbles right now (due to magnetic north being different than true north), it will be set *perfectly* upright again, once it's renewed (Rev 21:1). But still, the way the world, moon and stars rotate now, was *still* established by God. And He did establish it this way, *on purpose*, so the earth would have the seasons, and weather patterns, needed to furnish things that we (and the animals) need to live on the earth, *in flesh bodies* (Gen 1:14-15). And that's why Hezekiah says that the earth '***abideth***', which means ***to stand*** (#5975). So, while the earth *ages* change, the earth itself still abides (stands) - which is why Hezekiah then wrote that, "***They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants****"* (vs 91). Now, the word 'they' is *still* referring to the heaven and earth. And the word '**continue**' is the same as 'abideth' (in verse 90), so it too means ***to stand*** (#5975). And the word '**day**' can mean ***a day*** or (figuratively) ***a space of time defined by an associated term*** (#3117). And then the word '**ordinances**' is another one of the 'Ten Words' but, usually, it's rendered as 'judgment' because it means ***a verdict*** (favorable or unfavorable) ***pronounced judicially***, especially a ***sentence*** or ***formal decree*** (#4941).

However, because this Hebrew (#4941) word *also* means a 'formal decree', *that's* why it's used here. So, Hezekiah is saying that the way the stars, moon and earth rotate around the sun is a formal decree (ordinance) issued by God Himself - that's why they 'continue' (stand, or remain revolving around the sun, over and over again) throughout all generations, *to this very day*. And Hezekiah adds that even the sun, moon, stars and earth (themselves) are God's '**servants**', which does mean ***a servant*** (#5650), i.e. they do *as He wills them to do*… ***forever***! Therefore, God's ordinances (in heaven and on earth) are (more) proof of His faithfulness - for even the earth, stars, sun and moon are subject to His Commands. As Isa 40:7-8, and 1 Peter 1:24-25 both point out, while all flesh dies someday, the Word of God stands (endures) *forever*…

Psalm 119
92 Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.

Now Hezekiah is pointing out his joy in God's faithfulness to His Word, which is shown to us in the heavens above *and* on the earth we live in (a point Paul made too in Rom 1:20). The word '**unless**' here does mean ***unless***, but can also mean **if not**, ***except, had not***, or ***were it not that*** (#3884). And then the word '**law**' (again) means ***a precept*** or ***statute***, especially the Decalogue or

Pentateuch (#8451*). And it comes from the very word rendered as 'teach' back in verse 34 (#3384). So, God's Law *teaches,* and *instructs,* us what we should (or should not) do, "*for by the law is the knowledge of sin"* (Rom 3:20). "*Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good"* (Rom 7:12). And truly, ***all*** *scripture is given, by inspiration of God, and is* ***profitable*** *for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction* ***in righteousness****: that the man of God may be perfect* [#739 complete, i.ee spiritually mature]*,* ***throughly furnished*** *unto all good works* (#2 Tim 3:16-17). And then the word '**delights**' means ***enjoyment*** (#8191).

So, *because* Hezekiah delighted (got great enjoyment) in God's Laws (which teach us right from wrong) he *knew* he would have *surely* perished in his afflictions. The word '**perished**' here means ***to wander away***, i.e. ***lose oneself*** and, by implication, can also mean to ***perish***, i.e. be ***destroyed*** (#6). And then the word '**afflictions**' means ***depression***, i.e. ***misery*** (#6040). And, Hezzekiah's reference to perishing is likely two-fold. For, had he not delighted in our Heavenly Father's Laws, he would surely have *wandered away* from them – meaning, he would have surely *lost his faith in* God's Word being *true* and thus, turned to false gods and idols (which many other kings, and people, sadly did… and still do). But he's likely also saying that he trusted he would not be destroyed (as in killed), by the Assyrians, who were threatening to besiege Jerusalem. And he knew this, because God *promises* to help those who delight in His Laws, i.e. those who fear, love and earnestly strive to obey Him. And this shows us just *how* important it is to take delight (enjoy) in God's Word. So, we *should* enjoy studying His Word each day, for it's truly *very* uplifting, i.e. it 'quickens' (revives) our inner man *with hope* that our efforts in seeking God, and earnestly striving to obey Him, are ***not*** *in vain* (which they are not, 1 Cor 15:58). Those who have difficulty understanding His Bible usually don't enjoy it *because* they are *carnally* minded (Rom 8:5-8) [https://t.me/BestStudyBible/284], which means they still haven't figured out that sinning really is *not* fun, it only tears us down! In other words, they are still fooled by the deceptiveness of sin (2 Thess 2:10; Heb 3:13). And this is all the more reason we should pray for our loved ones (and others we feel led to) who still have not come to the 'light', i.e. knowledge of *the truth* (1 Tim 2:4)…

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,
21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; ***that your faith and hope might be in God.***
22 Seeing ye have purified your souls ***in obeying the truth*** *through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*
23 Being ***born again****, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,* ***by the word of God****,* ***which liveth and abideth for ever.***

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:
25 ***But the word of the Lord endureth for ever****. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*
1 Pt 1:18-25

Therefore, my beloved brethren, ***be ye stedfast, unmoveable****, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that* ***your labour is not in vain*** *in the Lord.*
1 Cor 15:58

We'll pick this up in part 2, of this 12th section (Lamed)…

AMEN.