



Have you ever felt like this dark sinful world is winning, or triumphing over you? Or like you are trying to do what is pleasing to the Lord, but it seems to just never help you to *not* face trials against the people that oppose you? The Psalmist David here feels that very same way... so let's dig in a little bit.

READ & DIG **Read Psalm 119:121-128**

STRENGTH AGAINST OPPOSITION (vv.121-122)

We see David once again crying out to God to help him not be oppressed by his enemies.... seems to be a trend doesn't it? He is crying out in v. 21 saying "God I do what is right in your eyes but yet I still feel as if the enemy is winning. Help me to not be oppressed or held back by them." Then again in w 22. he is asking God to bless him and give him strength against the arrogant oppressors. This section is a cry of help from David. He is clinging to God as his source for strength because he knows that He is the only one who can give him the strength needed to push on.

GROWTH & USE (vv.123-128)

We see a shift in tone and attitude from David in these verses. Instead of asking for deliverance from oppression and from his enemies, we see David asking God to use this to grow him and to use him for His glory. He says statements like "Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love" (v.124), "Teach me your statutes" (v.124), "Give me understanding" (v.125). He is asking the Lord to grow him in a time where it seems as if he is the only one living for the Lord. Is he wanting to grow just for his own gain, though? No! He wants to grow so that the Lord can do a work through him... so that the Lord can use him to light up the darkness around him. Look back at v.126 really quick. He acknowledges the need for the work of the Lord in him and around him, and he wants to be able to be used by the Lord for that purpose.

Apply & Go

So after reading this how can we apply it to our own lives? First, I think we need to pray for strength from the Lord when we feel as if we're the only one around that is trying to do the right thing. As David clung to the Lord, we need to as well.

Secondly, we need to pray that the Lord will teach us His ways, give us knowledge, and ultimately help us to fall in love with His ways, commands and precepts. As followers of Christ, the ways of the Lord should be special to us. David says that he values them as "fine gold" in v.127. Do you value the ways of the Lord as fine gold, or are you careless about them? Our outlook on His commands are a good representation of where our hearts stand.

