

FIRESTARTER

The Well-Worn Path

The psalmist uplifts the beauty of the ways of the Lord. The word for “way” in Hebrew is *Derek*, meaning, “to walk.” After one treads the same path over and over, it becomes well-worn—a road, a way. Also implied is the meaning of habit, the pathway in our souls when we do things repeatedly. As the comfort that comes from praying a familiar prayer, receive the joy and peace that come when you are walking in the well-worn ways of the Lord.

Each week you will learn an original Hebrew word for God’s will. The first stanza has seven out of ten of these words. We will take one of each of these seven synonyms for the seven Wednesdays of Easter this year. Repeat the word often in the original Hebrew. Peace will flow over you in one single psalm we pray during this year’s Easter season.

Aleph

- 1 Blessed are thóse whose wáy is blámeless, who wálk in
the láw of the LÓRD!
- 2 Blessed are thóse who kéep his decreés!
With áll their héarts they séek him.
- 3 They néver do ánything évil, but wálk in his wáys.
- 4 Yóu have láid down your précepts to be cárefully képt.
- 5 Máy my wáys be fírm in kéeping your státutes.
- 6 Thén I shall nótt be put to sháme
as I obsérve all your commánds.
- 7 I will thánk you with an úpright héart,
as I léarn your just júdgments.
- 8 Í will kéep your státutes; do not éver forsáke me.

Beth

9 How shall a yóuth remain púre on his wáy?

By obéying your wórd.

10 I have sóught you with áll my héart;
let me not stráy from your commánds.

11 I tréasure your wórd in my héart, lest I sín agáinst you.

12 Blést are yóu, O LÓRD; téach me your státutes.

13 With my líps have Í recóunted all the decrées of your móuth.

14 I rejóice in the wáy of your précepts,
as though all ríches were míne.

15 Í will pónder your précepts, and consíder your páths.

16 I táke delíght in your státutes; I will nótforget your wórd.

Gimel

- 17 Deal bountifully with your servant,
that I may live and keep your word.
- 18 Open my eyes, that I may see the wonders of your law.
- 19 I am a pilgrim in the land; hide not your commands from me.
- 20 My soul is consumed with longing at all times for your decrees.
- 21 You threaten the proud, the accursed,
who stray from your commands.
- 22 Free me from scorn and contempt, for I observe your decrees.
- 23 Though princes sit plotting against me,
your servant ponders your statutes.
- 24 See, your decrees are my delight; your statutes are my counselors.

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