

A Comforting Witness

Join the suffering of the psalmist with yours and others. Each verse with its rhythm and variation on the single theme of God's self-communication brings comfort to the heart. God gently shares with us who God is in the gentle presence of the flow of the Word. The Holy Spirit is your beloved friend who strokes the forehead of your soul with these words. The Holy Spirit is the Comforter.

The fourth word for our Wednesday meditations is 'edah, translated as "decrees" or "testimonies." It is a legal term, also meaning "witness." The root 'uwd means, "to go around" or "repeat." Consistent, repetitious true witness wins the case for the defendant.

Repeat the word 'edah throughout the day as you receive the wonders of creation as witnesses of the beauty and love of the Creator.

Yod י

- 73 It was your hánds that máde me and sháped me;
grant me ínsight to léarn your commánds.
- 74 Those who revére you sée me and rejóice,
for I trúst in your wórd.
- 75 O Lord, I knów that your **decréés** are ríght;
though I am húmbled, you are júst.
- 76 Let your mérciful lóve consóle me
by your prómise to your sérvant.
- 77 Show me compásson, that Í may líve,
for your láw is my delíght.
- 78 Let the árrogant be shámed who defléct me with líes;
as for mé, I will pónder your précepts.
- 79 Let those who féar you túrn to mé,
that they may knów your **decréés**.
- 80 Let my héart be blámeless in your státutes,
that I may nótt be put to sháme.

Caph כ

- 81 My soul yéarns for yóur salvátion;
I hópe in your wórd.
- 82 My eyes yéarn to sée your prómise. I ask,
“Whén will you cómfort me?”
- 83 I am like a wíneskin shríveled by smóke,
yet I remémber your státutes.
- 84 How lóng must your sérvant endúre?
Whén will you bring júdgment on my fóes?
- 85 For mé the próud have dug pítfalls;
they defý your lów.
- 86 Your commánds are all trúe;
then hélp me when líes opprém me.
- 87 They have álmost made an énd of me on éarth,
yet I forsáke not your précepts.
- 88 In your mérciful lóve, give me lífe;
I will obéy the **decrées** of your líps.

Lamed כ

- 89 Foréver is your wórd, O LÓRD,
standing fírm in the héavens.
- 90 From áge to áge is your trúth;
like the éarth, it stands fírm.
- 91 Your júdgments endúre to this dáy,
for áll things are your sérvants.
- 92 Had your láw not béen my delight,
I would have díed in my afflíction.
- 93 I will néver forgét your précepts,
for with thém you give me lífe.
- 94 Sáve me, Í am yóurs,
for I séek your précepts.
- 95 Though the wícked lie in wáit to destróy me,
yet I pónder your decrées.
- 96 I have séen that all perféction has an énd,
but your commánd is bóundless.