

Welcome

Dear friends,

One of the appointed psalms for this Sunday is from psalm 119:

129 Your statutes are wonderful; therefore I obey them.

130 The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

131 I open my mouth and pant, longing for your commands.

132 Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name.

133 Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me.

134 Redeem me from human oppression, that I may obey your precepts.

135 Make your face shine on your servant and teach me your decrees.

136 Streams of tears flow from my eyes, for your law is not obeyed.

This is obviously written by somebody with a great knowledge of the Bible, and a great love for God!

I love how it is relational, showing the utmost worth for God's point of view (the Bible). The thirst to know God better and what he has said, the want to be able to live for God more fully, better and love God more deeply. How God's words give life and light.

The awareness the writer has of God's mercy and understands that although they want to love God and serve him with all they are. A realisation of falling short but they have hope too. The psalmist knows God is merciful, and that God wants the best for us.

He knows God is faithful and will help in our spiritual battles as we cry out to Him, the psalmist cries for help in the fight against temptation and sin.

I love the honesty and humbleness of the words "teach me".

I ask God often those very same words, teach me how to live for you, to really live the life in abundance that Jesus offers in John 10:10. Putting God in the place of honour in all of life, and receiving His peace.

Maybe we can see how the psalmist has "streams of tears" knowing that in his own life he falls short of perfection and also sees the pain and suffering that happens in society when God's ways are not followed.

Jesus wept (shortest Bible verse John 11:35) so we know God sorrows like us. Do we like the psalmist weep and yearn for His Kingdom to come and for many to be free?

Tony King LLM at St Francis

Readings

1 Kings 3. 5-12 Matthew 13. 31-33, 44-52

Collect

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Village Market

Saturday 1st August 10am-12.30pm

St Andrew's Church Rooms, Preston. DT3 6BU

Crafts, Plants, Cakes, Cards, Jewellery,

Produce, Preserves etc.

Refreshments

Admission free!

(supporting St Andrew's Church & the British Heart Foundation)

The Worship Room

Next Event!

The Way, The Truth & The Life

Saturday 1st August 2026 7.30pm

Preston Village Hall, Weymouth. DT3 6BH

St Laurence Church Charity Dog Show

Saturday 22nd August 2026

11am-6pm

Upwey House,

75 Church Street, Upwey

Games, Stalls, Food, Live Music

Fun For All The Family

Free Entry

(All dogs to be kept on leads)