



Psalm 119:17-24 “A Foreigner in the Land”

Intro:

This third passage of Psalm 119 reminds us of a powerful truth—we *are only foreigners in this world*. Through God’s grace, we’ve been saved and given an eternal home with Him. As we live here on earth, we’re called to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, learning to enjoy the mission and blessings of this life by living for the home that awaits us.

V.17

“Be good to your **servant**, that I may live and obey your word.”

1. **Here to serve and obey**

As foreigners in this land, we have to remember—we’re not here on vacation, we’re here on **a mission**. God has placed us here for a purpose: to bring Him glory by living in obedience and making disciples (Matthew 5:16; 28:19-20). But if we’re honest, it’s easy to forget that. We start putting our **roots too deep** into this world—chasing comfort, stability, and pleasure as if this was our final home. Yet we were never meant to stay here forever. We are travelers passing through, servants of a King who has given us a mission to fulfill before He calls us home. That’s why I love the psalmist’s prayer here: “Be good to your servant, that I may live and obey your word.” When he asks for God’s goodness—whether that means time, health, strength, or provision, he doesn’t ask for it to self-indulgence, but to obey and carry out his calling. That’s a good heart check for us: *When I ask God to bless me, is it to serve Him or to serve myself?*

- “Dear friends, I warn you as “**temporary residents and foreigners**” to *keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls*. **Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors**. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, *they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.*” 1 Peter 2:11-12 NLT

V.18-20

“**Open my eyes** to see the wonderful truths in your instructions. **I am only a foreigner in the land**. Don’t hide your commands from me! I am always overwhelmed with a **desire** for your regulations.”

2. **Here to see**

We are here to see the truth—to see **Christ**. Too often, we turn our relationship with God into a list of religious duties, forgetting that He is real, near, and present with His children. Because of Christ’s sacrifice, the veil has been torn, and we can now behold Him each day. We get to enjoy His presence through prayer, behold His glory in His Word, and experience His power through His Spirit renewing us day by day (2 Corinthians 3:18). Though we are foreigners in this world, that doesn’t mean life here is meaningless. We have the beautiful privilege of **seeing Christ**—seeing His work in us and around us, even in the midst of a fallen world. Every day is an opportunity to know Him more deeply, to recognize His hand in our lives, and to be changed by His truth. But we must ask ourselves: *Are we taking that opportunity seriously? Are we pressing on to know God more intimately? Are we truly understanding more each day that He alone is God?*

The more we fix our eyes on Him, the more we understand that we are not of this world and the more our hearts begin to overflow with a desire for His Word. That’s what the psalmist expresses here—an overwhelming desire for God’s truth. *When your spiritual eyes are opened, you begin to realize how vulnerable and lost you are without His instruction. You start to crave His Word because you know it’s your lifeline in a foreign land.*

- “And we all, *with unveiled face*, **beholding the glory of the Lord**, are being transformed into the **same image from one degree of glory to another**. *For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*” 2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV
- “**For God**, who said, “*Let there be light in the darkness,*” **has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.**” 2 Corinthians 4:6 NLT
- ““But you are my *witnesses*, O Israel!” says the Lord. “You are my *servant*. **You have been chosen to know me, believe in me, and understand that I alone am God**. There is no other God— there never has been, and there never will be.” Isaiah 43:10 NLT

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- “Oh, **that we might know the Lord! Let us press on to know him.** He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring.” Hosea 6:3 NLT
- “**My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,**” Philippians 3:10 HCSB

V.21-24

“You rebuke **the arrogant**; those who wander from your commands **are cursed.** Don’t let them scorn and insult me, *for I have obeyed your laws.* Even princes sit and speak against me, **but I will meditate on your decrees. Your laws please me; they give me wise advice**”

3. **Here to persevere**

As foreigners in this land, we must remember that this journey will not be easy. To walk with God in a world that rejects Him will always bring opposition from our flesh and from the world. Yet we can take heart in knowing that as children of God and citizens of heaven, we may stumble and wander at times, but we will **persevere** because God Himself holds us fast. We should not be surprised when trials, suffering or opposition come. It’s not a sign that God has abandoned us but that we belong to Him. So let us instead see it as a privilege (Philippians 1:29), understanding that through trials, insults, and hardship, God is refining us and molding us the likeness of Jesus.

Something beneficial to notice is that though the psalmist felt the sting of rejection and mockery: “*Even princes sit and speak against me.*”, instead of defending himself or growing bitter, he chose to anchor his heart in God’s truth: “*I will meditate on your decrees.*” That’s the key to perseverance—when others hurt or insult you, *don’t dwell on their words; dwell on God’s Word.* Don’t let the opinions of others counsel or influence your heart—let God be your counselor, let His Word be your comfort and guide. There is a quote by Pastor Charles Spurgeon that really comforts and humbles my heart in times like these: “If any man thinks ill of you, do not be angry with him, for you are worse than he thinks you to be.” So when suffering and trials come, stand firm in the Gospel of Christ and keep trusting the One who keeps you. You are not walking alone. Christ is with you, and through every hardship, He is shaping you, strengthening your faith, and preparing you His glory.

- “**Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ.** Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, **I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News.** Don’t be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself. **For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him.**” Philippians 1:27-29 NLT

Conclusion:

Being a foreigner isn’t a loss; it’s freedom from the illusion that life “under the sun” can satisfy. Everything pursued apart from God proves empty. Instead, we must learn to pursue God and not dig our roots too deep in the soil of this world. Let us invest our lives in serving and obeying Christ, seeing and knowing Christ, and persevering for Christ. This is not a joyless exile—it is a joyful assignment we get to live out, walking hand in hand with our Savior. Let us learn to consider it a privilege to be a living testimony of Christ’s saving power and transforming presence.

Memory Verse:

“I am only a foreigner in the land. Don’t hide your commands from me!” Psalms 119:19 NLT



1. Click Diezmos y Ofrendas

2. Select “Ofrenda The Well”

3. Type Amount and Send