

Treasure Hunt

- How does each of the five cycles in Psalm 119 build on those that come before?
- What word is distinctive in the fourth cycle (Ayin – Tsadi)?
- What is the basic meaning of this word?
- What does it mean for God to be righteous? for us to be righteous?
- What word is emphasized in the fifth cycle (Qoph – Tau)?
- What two facets of difficulty do the Qoph and Resh stanzas present?
- What common theme ends both of them?
- What two outcomes do the Shin and Tau stanzas present?
- What common theme ends both of them?
- How do Shin and Tau answer the difficulties of Qoph and Resh?

Structure of Psalm 119

Psalm 119, Living in God's Word

1-16, The Foundation

1-8, The Goal: Obedience (Ps 1:1)

9-16, The Means: Meditation (Ps 1:2)

17-176, The Fruit (Ps 1:3-6)

17-48, Victory in a Hostile World

49-80, Encouragement to Others

81-120, Inhabiting Eternity

121-144, Attaining Righteousness

145-176, From Death to Life

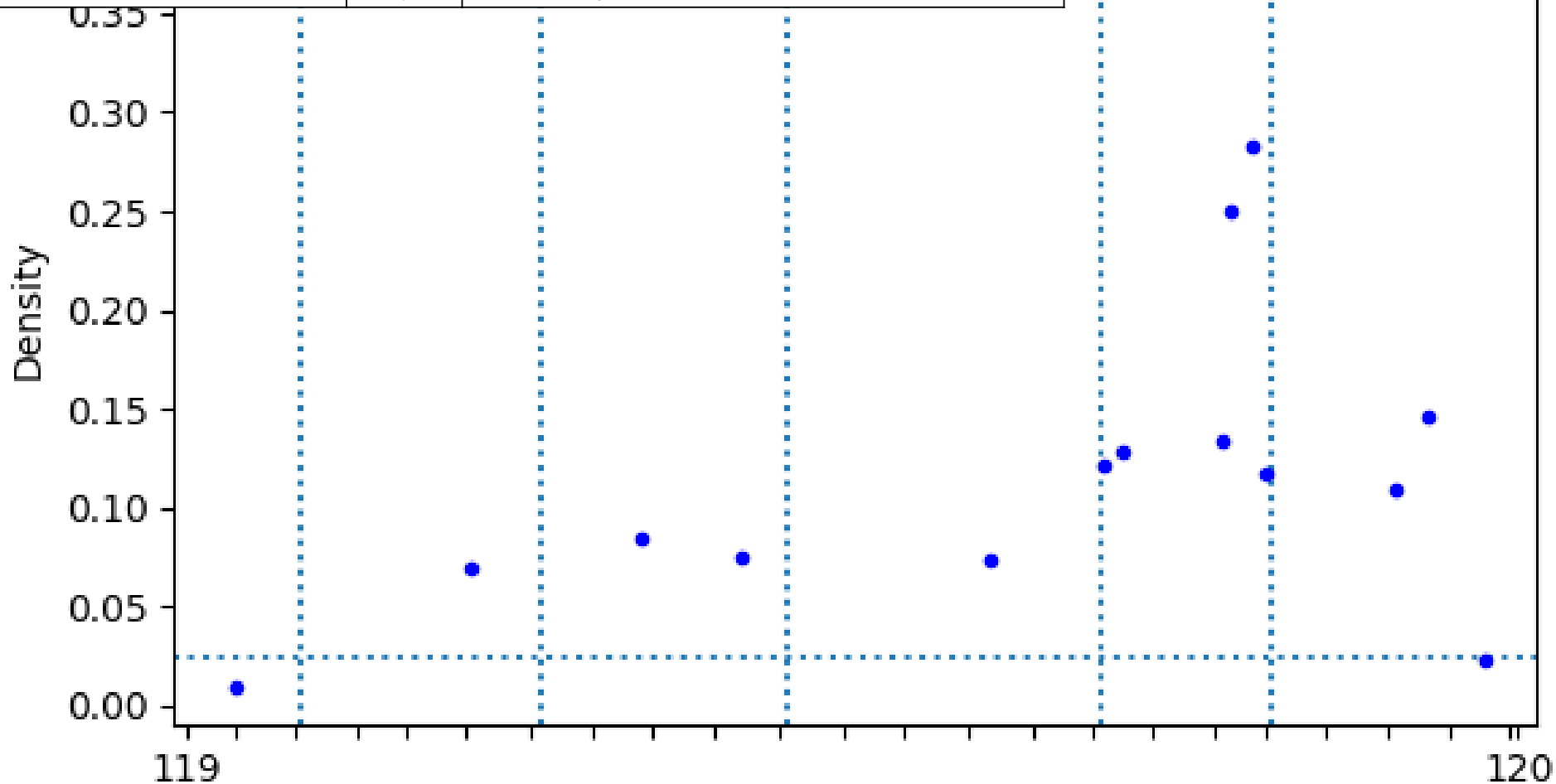


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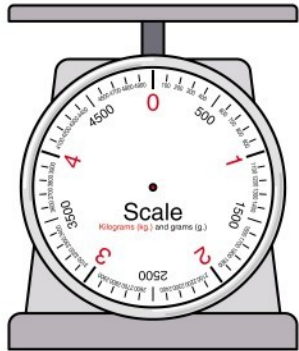
Verses	Key Words	Qn	Theme
17-48	Way		Overcoming trouble through the Word of God
49-80	Those who Fear the Lord	Who?	Community of those who fear the Lord
81-120	Eternity, Continuity	When?	Continuing Commitment to the Eternal Word
121-144	Righteous, Righteousness	What?	The Nature of True Righteousness
145-176	Live, Quicken	Why?	Life through God's Word

“Righteous,” “Righteousness” in Psalm 119

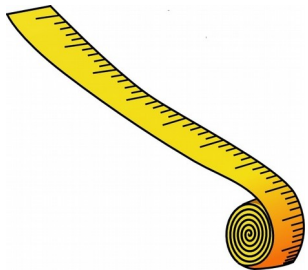
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Righteousness: Meeting the Standard



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https://all-free-download.com/free-vector/download/measuring-tape-clip-art_10621.html



<http://www.clker.com/clipart-scepeople-6.html>

What can be Righteous?	What is the Standard?
<p style="text-align: center;">Measures:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lev 19:35 Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard [length], in weight, or in measure. 36 Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deu 25:15 But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have:</p>	<p>Accepted measures of length, weight, volume (cf. National Bureau of Standards → National Institute of Standards and Technology)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">People</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ps 119:121 I have done judgment and justice [righteousness].</p>	<p>God's Law?</p>

... But what is the standard here?



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God's Word:

Ps 119:123 thy **righteous** word

Ps 119:138 thy testimonies ... are **righteous**

God himself:

Ps 119:137 **Righteous** art thou, O Lord

Ps 119:142 Thy **righteousness** is an everlasting righteousness

Consider the Parallels:

Psa 36:10 O continue thy **lovingkindness** unto them that know thee; and thy **righteousness** to the upright in heart.

Psa 40:10 I have not hid thy **righteousness** within my heart; I have declared thy **faithfulness** and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy **lovingkindness** and thy **truth** from the great congregation.

Psa 103:17 But the **mercy** of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his **righteousness** unto children's children;

Ex 34:6 The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in **goodness** and **truth**,
7 Keeping **mercy** for thousands, **forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,**

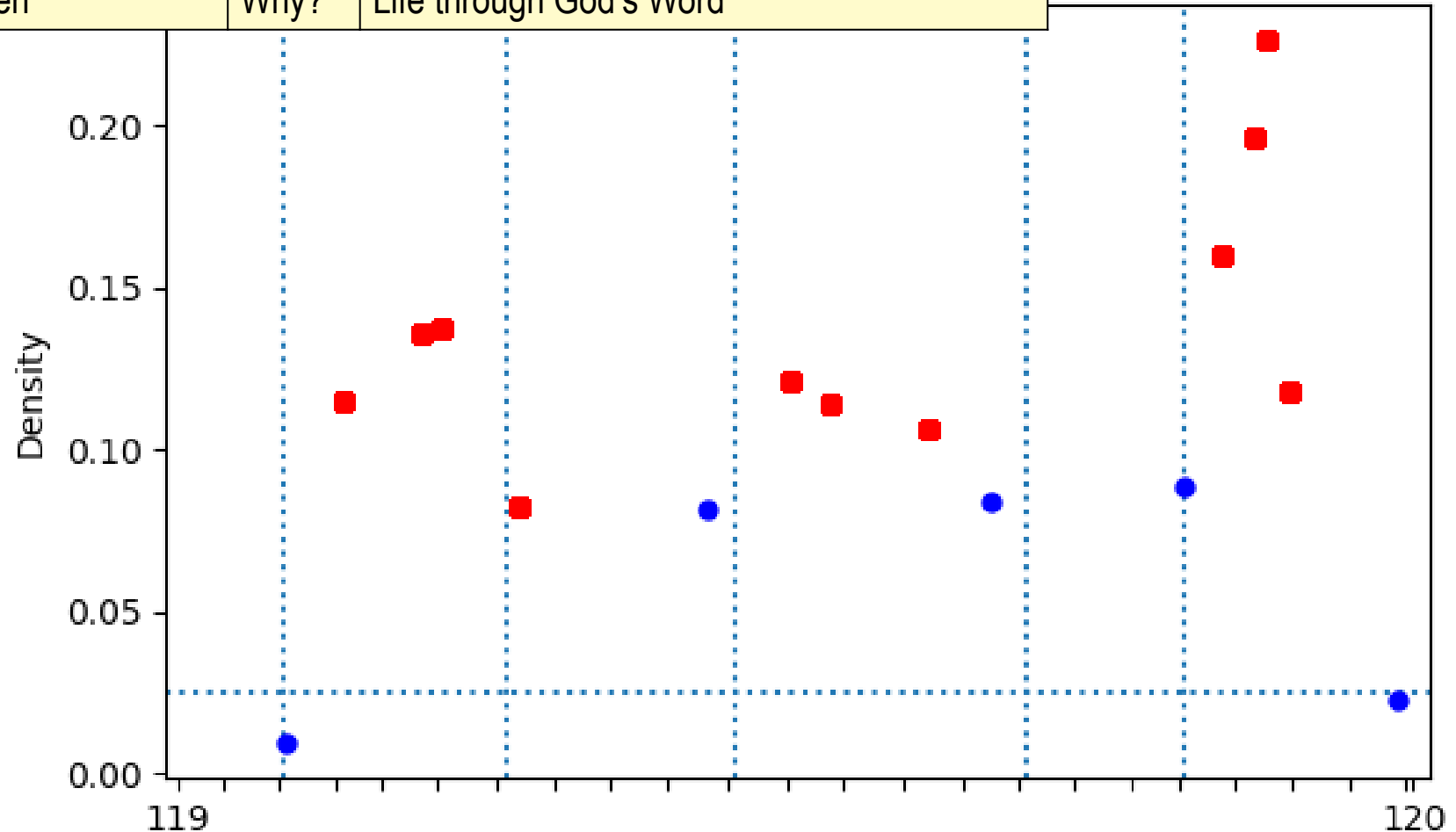
Isa 45:21 there is no God else beside me; a **just** God and a **Saviour**; there is none beside me.

Isa 51:5 My **righteousness** is near; my **salvation** is gone forth,

Isa 56:1 my **salvation** is near to come, and my **righteousness** to be revealed.

“Live,” “Quicken” in Psalm 119

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The Final Cycle

145-160, The Problem

Qoph, 145-152, My Feelings
145-151a, I cried, I cried, I cried ...
151b-152, God's eternal word

Resh, 153-160, My Enemies
153-169, Wicked, persecutors,
enemies, transgressors
160, God's eternal word

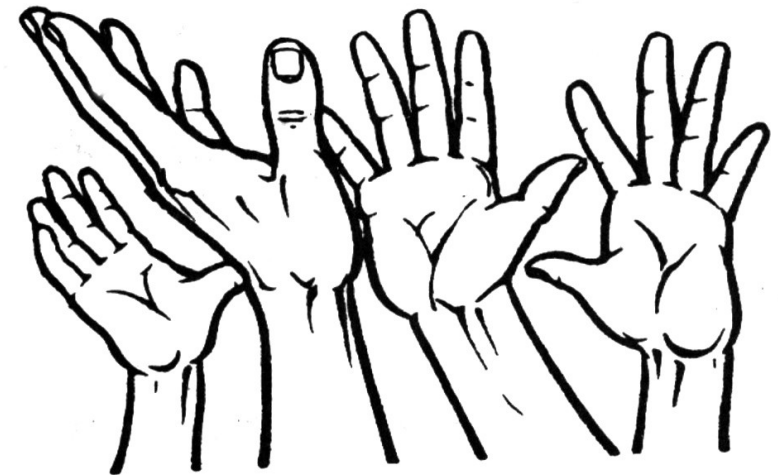
161-176, The Outcome

Shin, 161-168, My Delight
161-168a, Awe, rejoice, love, hope ...
168b, God is watching me

Tau, 169-176, My Deliverance
169-175, Praise for Help, Salvation,
Deliverance
176, God is watching me



<http://clipart-library.com/clipart/1802121.htm>



<http://www.whitehorseblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/HandsUplifted.jpg>

“Way” in Psalm 119

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