

# Psalms 119:106

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

## Analysis

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The Nun (נ) section begins with **I have sworn, and I will perform it** (נִשְׁבַּעֲתִי, nishba'ti va'aqayemah)—a solemn vow using the verb shaba (to swear an oath). This echoes Nehemiah's covenant renewal (Neh 10:29) and prefigures the New Covenant sealed in Christ's blood. The psalmist's resolve **to keep thy righteous judgments** (מִשְׁפָטִי צִדְקָתָה, mishpetei tzidkekha) reflects covenantal commitment—God's mishpatim are not arbitrary rules but righteous ordinances flowing from His character.

Performance of vows was legally binding in Israel (Deut 23:21-23), making this a serious commitment. The structure parallels wedding vows or military oaths—public declaration followed by faithful execution. This verse challenges cheap grace and easy-beliefism, demanding resolved obedience rooted in covenant loyalty.

## Historical Context

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Written during David's persecution or the Babylonian exile, when keeping God's law required costly commitment. Oath-taking in ancient Israel was sacred and legally binding, invoking God as witness. The righteous judgments refer to the Torah given at Sinai, the foundation of Israel's covenant relationship with Yahweh.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. What vows have you made to God that require renewed commitment and faithful performance?
2. How does the psalmist's sworn obedience challenge a Christianity that emphasizes grace without discipleship?
3. In what ways does covenant loyalty to God's word require sacrifice in your current circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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צָדָקָה: מִשְׁפָטִים לְשֵׁם רַב נִשְׁבָּעַת  
I have sworn and I will perform it that I will keep judgments thy righteous  
H7650 H6965 H8104 H4941 H6664

## Additional Cross-References

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**Nehemiah 10:29** (Judgment): They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

**Psalms 56:12** (Parallel theme): Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

**2 Corinthians 8:5** (Parallel theme): And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

**2 Kings 23:3** (Parallel theme): And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

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