Psalms 119:127

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.

Analysis

Therefore I love thy commandments above gold (עַל־כֵּן אָהַבְתִּי מִצְוֺתֶיךָ מִזָּהָב, al-ken ahavti mitzvoteiḵa mi-zahav)—The therefore connects to v. 126: precisely because God's law is violated, the faithful treasure it more. Mitzvot (commandments) become precious when rare. The comparative 'above gold' (mi-zahav) echoes Ps 19:10—God's words are more desirable than finest wealth.

Yea, above fine gold (מִפָּז, mi-paz)—Paz is refined, pure gold. The escalation (gold → fine gold) emphasizes supreme value. While the wicked nullify God's law, the righteous find it priceless.

Historical Context

Gold was the ancient world's ultimate measure of wealth and security. Solomon's temple was overlaid with gold; kings hoarded it. Yet the psalmist declares God's commandments surpass even purified gold—a radically counter-cultural value system.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does cultural opposition to God's law increase or decrease your love for Scripture?
2. What 'gold' in your life competes with your affection for God's commandments?
3. Do you love God's law when it costs you something, or only when it's convenient?

Interlinear Text

עַל	כֵּ ן	אָהַ בְתִּי	מִצְוֹתֶ יךָ	מִזָּהָ ב	וּמִפָּז:
H5921	H3651	**Therefore I love**	**thy commandments**	**above gold**	**yea above fine gold**
		H157	H4687	H2091	H6337

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 19:10 (Parallel theme): More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Proverbs 16:16 (Parallel theme): How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

Proverbs 8:11 (Parallel theme): For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

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