

# Psalms 119:159

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD,  
according to thy lovingkindness.

## Analysis

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**Consider how I love thy precepts** (רָאָה פִּיְפָקָדְךָ אַהֲבָתִי, re'eh ki-fiqudekha ahavti)—The psalmist bids God 'see' (re'eh) his love (ahavah) for piqudim (precepts, orders, mandates). The word order emphasizes object: 'your precepts—I love.' **Quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness** (וְהִנֵּה כַּחֲסֵדְךָ מִינִי, YHWH kechasdekha chayeni)—chesed, that covenant-keeping faithful love, becomes the measure of quickening.

This anticipates Jesus's criterion for love: 'If ye love me, keep my commandments' (John 14:15). Love for God's precepts validates love for God Himself. The quickening comes through chesed—the very attribute Hosea 6:6 prizes above sacrifice.

## Historical Context

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The final verse of the Resh (ר) section returns to the 'consider' (re'eh) of v. 153, framing the stanza. The psalmist moves from 'see my affliction' to 'see my love'—both appeal to the covenant relationship. Chesed is the glue of covenant; it obligates God to respond to those who love His Torah.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How is love for God's precepts both the evidence of regeneration and the means of ongoing spiritual vitality?
2. What would it look like to pray 'quicken me according to your *chesed*' in a specific area of spiritual dullness?
3. How does John 14:15 ('If ye love me, keep my commandments') inform your understanding of loving God's precepts?

## Interlinear Text

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רְאֵה	פָּנָים	אַתָּה	בְּתָנוֹתָךְ	פָּקַדְתָּךְ	יְהִי	הִנֵּה	אַתָּה	בְּתָנוֹתָךְ	פָּקַדְתָּךְ	יְהִי
<b>Consider</b>	H3588	<b>thy precepts</b>	H6490	<b>how I love</b>	H157	<b>me O LORD</b>	H3068			

  

רְאֵה פָּנָים	אַתָּה בְּתָנוֹתָךְ	פָּקַדְתָּךְ	יְהִי הִנֵּה
according to thy lovingkindness	quicken		
H2617	H2421		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 119:97** (Love): O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

**Psalms 119:153** (Parallel theme): Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law.

**Nehemiah 13:22** (Parallel theme): And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.