

# Psalms 119:168

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways are before thee.

## Analysis

**I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies** (שָׁמַרְתִּי פְּקֻדִּים וְעֵדָה) shamarti fiqudekha ve'edotekha)—Shamar again, now with two objects: piqudim (precepts, mandates) and edot (testimonies, witnesses). Comprehensive obedience. The accountability clause: **for all my ways are before thee** (כִּי כָל־דֶּרֶךְ נֶגֶד) ki kol-derakhai negdekha). Naged means 'in front of, before, in plain sight.' Every derekh (way, path, journey) lies open to divine scrutiny.

This anticipates Hebrews 4:13: 'All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.' The psalmist's obedience isn't performance but lived transparency before the all-seeing God.

## Historical Context

The final verse of Shin (שׁ) emphasizes comprehensive faithfulness with the divine gaze as motivation. Unlike pagan religion (where gods could be deceived), Yahweh-worship requires integrity precisely because God sees all. Proverbs 5:21 echoes: 'The ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.'

## Related Passages

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does living consciously 'before' (*<em>neged</em>*) God's gaze motivate obedience differently than fear of human opinion?
2. What 'ways' (*<em>derakhai</em>*) in your life do you try to hide from God's sight, and what would confession and transparency look like?
3. How does Jesus's perfect transparency before the Father (John 8:29—"I do always those things that please him") model the psalmist's accountability?

## Interlinear Text

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נָתַתָּךְ: דְּבָרָכְךָ יְהוָה קָדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא שֶׁמֶן רְתִינָה  
I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies for all my ways H5048  
H8104 H6490 H5713 H3588 H3605 H1870

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 5:21** (Parallel theme): For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.

**Psalms 139:3** (Parallel theme): Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

**Psalms 98:8** (Parallel theme): Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together

**Job 34:21** (Parallel theme): For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings.

**Jeremiah 23:24** (Parallel theme): Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.