

“In” Christ

This fairly exhaustive list contains references to the name “Christ” in the epistles of St. Paul, including the Epistle to the Hebrews. I hesitated drawing up a list of what is quite obvious but as one reads through it, a better idea emerges of what Paul means by his frequent refrain of being “in Christ.” This preposition which designates a presence-within is also interesting to compare with other prepositions Paul uses such as “with, through” (Jesus Christ). Note the italicized prepositions which emphasize the various ways Paul presents his relationship with Christ. Please note that I have limited this list to the name of “Christ” associated with prepositions only.

Romans

- 1.1: Paul, a servant *of* Jesus Christ
- 1.6: who are called to belong *to* Jesus Christ
- 1.7: *from* God our Father and (*from*) the Lord Jesus Christ
- 1.8: I thank my God *through* Jesus Christ for all of you
- 2.16: God judges the secrets of men *by* Christ Jesus
- 3.22: through faith *in* Jesus Christ for all
- 3.24: through the redemption which is *in* Christ Jesus
- 5.1: peace with God *through* our Lord Jesus Christ
- 5.11: rejoice in God *through* our Lord Jesus Christ
- 5.15: in the grace *of* that one man Jesus Christ
- 5.17: reign in life *through* the one man Jesus Christ
- 5.21: to eternal life *through* Jesus Christ our Lord
- 6.3: all of us who have been baptized *into* Christ
- 6.8: but if we have died *with* Christ, we believe
- 6.11: dead to sin and live to God *in* Christ Jesus
- 6.23: is eternal life *in* Christ Jesus our Lord
- 7.4: have died to the law through the body *of* Christ
- 7.25: thanks be to God *through* Jesus Christ our Lord
- 8.1: for those who are *in* Christ Jesus
- 8.2: for the law of the spirit of life *in* Christ Jesus
- 8.9: any one who does not have the Spirit *of* Christ
- 8.17: heirs of God and fellow heirs *with* Christ
- 8.35: who shall separate us from the love *of* Christ
- 8.39: from the love of God *in* Christ Jesus our Lord
- 9.1: I am speaking the truth *in* Christ
- 9.3: that I myself were accursed and cut off *from* Christ
- 9.5: any one who does not have the Spirit *of* Christ
- 10.17: what is heard comes by the preaching *of* Christ
- 12.5: so we, though many, are one body *in* Christ
- 13.14: but put *on* the Lord Jesus Christ
- 15.5: in such harmony...in accord *with* Christ Jesus
- 15.6: the God and Father *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
- 15.16: to be a minister *of* Christ Jesus to the Gentiles
- 15.17: *in* Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud
- 15.19: I have fully preached the gospel *of* Christ
- 15.29: come in the fulness of the blessing *of* Christ
- 15.30: I appeal to you, brethren, *by* our Lord Jesus Christ

16.3: my fellow workers *in* Christ Jesus
16.5: Epaphroditus...first convert in Asia *for* Christ
16.7: and they were *in* Christ before me
16.9: great Urbanus, our fellow worker *in* Christ
16.10: greet Apelles, who is approved *in* Christ
16.16: all the churches *of* Christ greet you
16.20: the grace *of* our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
16.25: my gospel and the preaching *of* Jesus Christ
16.27: be glory for evermore *through* Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians

1.1: by the will of God to be an apostle *of* Christ Jesus
1.2: to those sanctified *in* Christ Jesus
1.2: call on the name *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.4: given you *in* Christ Jesus
1.6: even as the testimony *to* Christ was confirmed
1.7: for the revealing *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.8: guiltless in the day *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.9: the fellowship *of* his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord
1.10: by the name *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.12: "I belong to Cephas, or "I belong *to* Christ."
1.17: lest the cross *of* Christ be emptied of its power
1.30: he is the source of your life *in* Christ Jesus
2.16: we have the mind *of* Christ
3.1: I as men of the flesh, as babes *in* Christ
3.23: you are Christ's (i.e., *of*) and Christ is God's (twice)
4.1: I as servants *of* Christ
4.10: we are fools *for* Christ's sake
4.10: you are wise *in* Christ
4.15: for though you have countless guides *in* Christ
4.15: I became your father *in* Christ Jesus
4.17: to remind you of my ways *in* Christ
6.11: justified in the name *of* the Lord Jesus Christ
6.15: know that your bodies are members *of* Christ
6.15: shall I therefore take the members *of* Christ
7.22: who was free when called is a slave *of* Christ
8.12: you sin *against* Christ
9.12: an obstacle in the way of the gospel *of* Christ
9.21: but under the law *of* Christ
10.16: is it not a participation in the blood *of* Christ (twice)
11.1: be imitators of me, as I am *of* Christ
11.3: the head *of* Christ is God
12.12: so it is *with* Christ
12.27: you are the body *of* Christ
15.18: who have fallen asleep *in* Christ have perished
15.19: if for this life only we have hoped *in* Christ
15.22: so also *in* Christ shall all be made alive
15.23: then at his coming those who belong *to* Christ

15.31: which I have *in* Christ Jesus our Lord
15.57; *through* our Lord Jesus Christ
16.24: my love be with you all *in* Christ Jesus

2 Corinthians

1.1: Paul, an apostle *of* Christ Jesus by the will of God
1.3: Father *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.5: as we share abundantly *in* Christ's sufferings
1.5: so *through* Christ we share abundantly
1.22: so also *in* Christ shall all be made alive
1.23: then at his coming those who belong *to* Christ
1.31: which I have *in* Christ Jesus our Lord
1.57: *through* our Lord Jesus Christ
2.10: has been for your sake in the presence *of* Christ
2.12: to preach the gospel *of* Christ
2.114: who *in* Christ always leads us in triumph
2.15: for we are the aroma *of* Christ to God
2.17: in the sight of God we speak *in* Christ
3.3: that you are a letter *from* Christ
3.4: that we have *through* Christ toward God
3.14: because only *through* Christ is it taken away
4.4: the light of the gospel of the glory *of* Christ
4.6: the glory of God in the face *of* Christ
5.10: appear before the judgment seat *of* Christ
5.14: for the love *of* Christ controls us
5.17: if any one is *in* Christ, he is a new creation
5.18: who *through* Christ reconciled us to himself
5.19: *in* Christ God was reconciling the world
5.20: so we are ambassadors *for* Christ
5.20: we beseech you on behalf *of* Christ
8.9: for you know the grace *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
8.23: messengers of the churches, the glory *of* Christ
9.13: acknowledging the gospel *of* Christ
10.1: by the meekness and gentleness *of* Christ
10.7: if any one is confident that he is Christ's (i.e. *of*)
10.7: as he is Christ's (i.e., *of*), so are we
11.2: I betrothed you *to* Christ
11.3: from a sincere and pure devotion *to* Christ
11.10: as the truth *of* Christ is in me
11.13: disguising themselves as apostles *of* Christ
11.23: are they servants *of* Christ
12.2: I know a man *in* Christ
12.9: that the power *of* Christ may rest upon me
12.10: for the sake *of* Christ
12.19: speaking *in* Christ
13.14: the grace *of* the Lord Jesus Christ

Galatians

1.1: *through* Jesus Christ and God the father
1.6: who called you in the grace *of* Christ
1.7: want to pervert the gospel *of* Christ
1.10: I should not be a servant *of* Christ
1.12: it came through a revelation *of* Jesus Christ
1.22: the churches *of* Christ is Judea
2.4: spy out our freedom which we have *in* Christ Jesus
2.16: through faith *in* Jesus Christ
2.16: even we have believed *in* Christ Jesus
2.16: in order to be justified by faith *in* Christ
2.17: if, in our endeavor to be justified *in* Christ
2.20: I have been crucified *with* Christ
3.14: that *in* Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham
3.22: what was promised to faith *in* Jesus Christ
3.24: the law was our custodian until Christ came
3.26: for *in* Christ Jesus you are all sons of God
3.27: for as many of you as were baptized *into* Christ
3.27: baptized *into* Christ have put *on* Christ
3.28: for you are all one *in* Christ Jesus
3.29: if you are Christ's (i.e., *of*), then you are Abraham's
5.4: you are severed *from* Christ
5.6: *in* Christ Jesus neither circumcision
5.24: those who belong *to* Christ Jesus
6.2: and so fulfil the law *of* Christ
6.12: not be persecuted for the cross *of* Christ
6.14: except in the cross *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
6.18: the grace *of* our Lord Jesus Christ

Ephesians

1.1: Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God
1.3: the God and Father *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.3: who has blessed us *in* Christ
1.5: to be his sons *through* Jesus Christ
1.9: his purpose which he set forth *in* Christ
1.12: we who first hoped *in* Christ
1.17: God *of* our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory
1.20: which he accomplished *in* Christ
2.5: made us alive together *with* Christ
2.6: in the heavenly places *with* Christ
2.7: in kindness toward us *in* Christ Jesus
2.10: we are his workmanship, created *in* Christ Jesus
2.12: you were at that time separated *from* Christ
2.13: *in* Christ Jesus you...have been brought near
2.13: have been brought near in the blood *of* Christ
3.1: Paul, a prisoner *for* Christ Jesus on behalf of you
3.4: perceive my insight into the mystery *of* Christ
3.6: partakers of the promise *in* Christ Jesus

3.11: which he has realized *in* Christ Jesus our Lord
3.19: to know the love *of* Christ
3.21: to him be glory in the church and *in* Christ Jesus
4.7: according to the measure *of* Christ's gift
4.12: for building up the body *of* Christ
4.13: measure of the stature of the fulness *of* Christ
4.15: into him who is the head, *into* Christ
4.32: forgiving one another, as God *in* Christ forgave
5.5: has any inheritance in the kingdom *of* Christ
5.20: in the name *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
5.21: out of reverence *for* Christ
5.24: as the church is subject *to* Christ
5.32: am saying that it refers *to* Christ and the church
6.in singleness of heart, as *to* Christ
6.6: as servants *of* Christ, doing the will of God

Philippians

1.1: Paul and Timothy, servants *of* Christ Jesus
1.1: to all the saints *in* Christ Jesus
1.6: at the day *of* Jesus Christ
1.8: with the affection *of* Christ Jesus
1.10: pure and blameless for the day *of* Christ
1.11: which come *through* Jesus Christ
1.13: my imprisonment is *for* Christ
1.19: the help of the Spirit *of* Jesus Christ
1.23: my desire is to depart and be *with* Christ
1.26: ample cause to glory *in* Christ Jesus
1.27: manner of life be worthy of the gospel *of* Christ
1.29: granted to you that for the sake *of* Christ
2.1: so if there is any encouragement *in* Christ
2.5: which is yours *in* Christ Jesus
2.16: so that in the day *of* Christ I may be proud
2.21: not those *of* Jesus Christ
2.30: for he nearly died for the work *of* Christ
3.3: worship God in spirit and glory *in* Christ Jesus
3.7: I counted as loss for the sake *of* Christ
3.9: that which is through faith *in* Christ
3.14: prize of the upward call of God *in* Christ Jesus
3.18: live as enemies of the cross *of* Christ
4.7: keep your hearts and your minds *in* Christ Jesus
4.19: his riches in glory *in* Christ Jesus
4.21: greet every saint *in* Christ Jesus
4.23: grace *of* the Lord Jesus Christ

Colossians

1.1: Paul, an apostle *of* Christ Jesus by the will of God
1.2: faithful brethren in Christ at Colossae

1.3: God, the Father *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
1.4: we have heard of your faith *in* Christ Jesus
1.7: he is a faithful minister *of* Christ on our behalf
1.24: what is lacking *in* Christ's afflictions
1.28: that we may present every man mature *in* Christ
2.2: the knowledge of God's mystery, *of* Christ
2.5: the firmness of your faith *in* Christ
2.8: not according *to* Christ
2.11: in the circumcision *of* Christ
2.17: the substance belongs *to* Christ
2.20: if *with* Christ you died to the elemental spirits
3.1: if then you have been raised *with* Christ
3.3: your life is hid *with* Christ in God
3.15: let the peace *of* Christ rule in your hearts
3.16: let the word *of* Christ dwell in you richly
4.3: to declare the mystery *of* Christ
4.12: Epaphras...a servant *of* Christ Jesus

1 Thessalonians

1.1: in God the father and (*in*) the Lord Jesus Christ
1.3: steadfastness of hope *in* our Lord Jesus Christ
2.6: might have made demands as apostles *of* Christ
2.14: became imitators of the churches of God *in* Christ
3.2: brother and God's servant in the gospel *of* Christ
4.16: the dead *in* Christ will rise first
5.9: salvation *through* our Lord Jesus Christ
5.18: the will of God *in* Christ Jesus for you
5.23: at the coming *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
5.28: the grace *of* our Lord Jesus Christ be with you

2 Thessalonians

1.12: the grace of our God and (*of*) the Lord Jesus Christ
2.1: concerning the coming *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
2.14: may obtain the glory *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
3.5: to the steadfastness *of* Christ
3.6: in the name *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
3.12: exhort *in* the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work
3.18: the grace *of* our Lord Jesus Christ by command of God

1 Timothy

1.1: Paul, an apostle *of* Christ Jesus by command of God
1.1: God our Savior and *of* Christ Jesus our hope
1.14: the faith and love that are *in* Christ Jesus
3.13: the faith which is *in* Christ Jesus
4.6: you will be a good minister *of* Christ Jesus
5.11: when they grow wanton *against* Christ
5.21: in the presence of God and *of* Christ Jesus
6.3: sound words *of* our Lord Jesus Christ
6.13: in the presence *of*...Christ Jesus
6.14: until the appearing *of* our Lord Jesus Christ

2 Timothy

- 1.1: Paul, an apostle *of* Christ Jesus by the will of God
- 1.1: the promise of the life which is *in* Christ Jesus
- 1.9: the grace which he gave us *in* Christ Jesus ages ago
- 1.10: the appearing *of* our Savior Christ Jesus
- 1.13: in the faith and love which are *in* Christ Jesus
- 2.1: be strong in the grace that is *in* Christ Jesus
- 2.3: as a good soldier *of* Christ Jesus
- 2.10: they also may obtain salvation *in* Christ Jesus
- 3.12: all who desire to live a godly life *in* Christ
- 3.15: through faith *in* Christ Jesus
- 4.1: in the presence of God and *of* Christ Jesus

Titus

- 1.1: a servant of God and an apostle *of* Jesus Christ
- 2.13: glory of our great God and (*of*) Savior Jesus Christ
- 3.6: *through* Jesus Christ our Savior

Philemon

- 1.1: Paul, a prisoner *for* Christ Jesus
- 1.6: knowledge of all the good that is our *in* Christ
- 1.8: though I am bold enough *in* Christ to command you
- 1.9: now a prisoner also *for* Christ Jesus
- 1.20: refresh my heart *in* Christ
- 1.23: Epaphras, my fellow prisoner *in* Christ Jesus
- 1.25: the grace *of* the Lord Jesus Christ

Hebrews

- 3.14: we share *in* Christ
- 6.1: let us leave the elementary doctrine *of* Christ
- 9.14: how much more shall the blood *of* Christ
- 10.10: the offering of the body *of* Jesus Christ
- 11.26: he considered abuse suffered *for* the Christ
- 13.21: *through* Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever

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Psalm 119, the longest in the psalter (176 verses), contains many allusions with regard to the Torah or Law. Because this Torah is central to Jewish life and worship, the psalmist celebrates its observance by constant references to it; more specifically, he asks God that he remain faithful in guarding the precepts contained in the psalm. The following list of verses from Psalm 119 demonstrate this ardent concern for all the directives contained in the Torah. In this list I insert the Hebrew words which center around such “guarding” in order to grasp the deeper significance of this psalm. I also present a brief explanation or note with regard to the word in question, especially when the word in question has a broader application. As one reads further into this list, the notes decrease simply because an explanation of the words had occurred earlier. Note that I have excluded those instances when the same word repeated itself; the Hebrew transliterations are left in their respective forms:

- 1: blessed are those...who *walk* (haholekym: implies a going and a coming) in the law of the Lord.

2: blessed are those who *keep* (notsry: implies a guarding and a besieging; also in the sense of hiding as in Is 48.6, “*hidden things* which you have not known”) his testimonies.

who *seek* (yidreshuhu: verbal root implies a rubbing, beating or treading with the connotation of frequenting a place) him with their whole heart.

3: who also *do* (pahalu: also in the sense of fabricating an object) no wrong
-but *walk* (halaku) in his ways.

4: you *ordered* (tsiwytah: also, to constitute, appoint) your precepts to be *kept diligently* (lishmor me’od: the adverb me’od implies something excessive; cf. Gen 1.31: “and behold, it was *very good*”).

5: my ways may be *steadfast* (yiknu; also in the sense of to hide and to wrap oneself as in Is 28.20: “the covering is too narrow for one *to wrap himself* in it”) in *keeping* (lishmor: implies the duty of a watchman; cf. Gen 2.15: “The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and *keep* it”) your statutes

6: having my eyes *fixed* (behabyty: also means having respect for something) on all your commandments.

7: when I *learn* (belamedy: fundamental sense of lamad is to chastise; it is the verbal root for Talmud; its Syriac equivalent applies to the *disciples* of Christ. Note the frequent use of lamad in this list, as if the psalmist were asking God to be a *disciple* of the Torah) your righteous ordinances.

8: I will *observe* (eshmor) your statutes.

9: by *guarding* (lishmor) it according to your word.

10: with my whole heart I *seek* (derashtyha) you.

-let me not wander (lo-tashgeny: in the sense of committing a fault; also cf. Prov 20.1 in conjunction with to reel: “why do you *reel*, my son, with a strange woman”) from your commandments.

11: I have *laid up* (tsaphanty: with the connotation of hiding, of concealing, of laying up) your word in my heart.

12: *teach* (lamdeny) me your statutes.

13: I *declare* (sapharty: in the sense of to inscribe, write letters; also, to narrate) all the ordinances of your mouth.

14: in the way of our testimonies I *delight* (sasty: related to another verb, sus, to leap, spring).

15: I will *mediate* (’asychah: fundamentally implies producing, bringing forth; it also suggests singing or celebration) on your precepts.

-and *fix* (’abytah) my eyes on your ways.

16: I will *delight* (’eshtahashah: from the verbal root to overspread, stroke, smear) in your statutes.

-I will not *forget* (lo ’eshkach; implies wandering) your word.

17: that I may live and *observe* (’eshmerah) your word.

18: that I may *behold* (’abytah) wondrous things out of your law

19: *hide not* (’al-taser; can mean a guarding as in Ps 27.5: “he will *conceal* me under the *cover* of his tent”) your commandments from me.

20: my soul is *consumed* (karsah: verbal root means to break in pieces by scraping, rubbing) with longing for your ordinances at all times.

21: insolent...who *wander* (hashoym) from your commandments.

22: for I have *kept* (natsarty) your testimonies.

23: your servant will *meditate* (yasyach) on your statutes.

24: your testimonies are my delight (shahashuhay), they are my counselors (’anshy hatsty: literally, men of counsel).

25: *revive* (chayeny: original notion is breathing; cf. nephesh or soul with the same connotation) me according to your word.

26: *teach* (lamdeny) me your statutes.

27: make me *understand* (havnyeny: from the verbal root to separate which implies the act of discernment) the way of your precepts.

-I will *meditate* (’asychah) on your wondrous works.

28: *strengthen* (qaymeny: verbal root implies a rising, standing) me according to your word.

29: *graciously teach* (chaneny: to be favorably inclined, accommodating as well as to impart mercy) me your law.

30: I *set* (shiwtyhy: fundamental meaning of being even, level, making like) your ordinances before me.

31: I *cleave* (davaqty: in the sense of being glued as well as being attached as Gen 2.24, “Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and *cleaves* to his wife”) to your testimonies.

32: I will *run* ('aruts) in the way of your commandments.

33: *teach* (hureny: verbal root with the sense of casting as an archer shoots arrows; yarah is the root for Torah) me the way of your statutes.

I will *keep* ('eshmerenah) it to the end.

34: that I may *keep* ('etsrah: in the sense to store up a treasure) your law.
-*observe* ('eshmerenah) it with my whole heart.

35: *lead* me (harrykeny: from the verbal root to tread, trample) in the path of your commandments.
for I delight (chaphatsty: the fundamental notion is to incline; also applies to an act of the will or as a noun, something precious) in it.

36: *incline* (hat: in the sense of stretching out towards something) my heart to your testimonies.

37: *give me life* (chayeny) in your ways.

38: *confirm* (haqem) to your servant your promise.

40: I *long* (ta'avty: to breathe after as well as to will something) for your precepts.
-in your righteousness *give me life* (chayeny).

42: I *trust* (vatachty) in your word.

43: for my *hope* (yichalty: the verbal root implies twisting, turning around with the connotation of strength) is in your ordinances.

44: I will *keep* ('eshemrah) your law continually.

45: I have *sought* (darashty) your precepts.

46: I will also *speak* ('adabrah: a verbal root akin in meaning to the Greek logos which connotes the expression of something) of your testimonies before kings.

47: I find my *delight* ('eshtahashah) in your commandments.

48: I *revere* ('esa'-kaphy: literally here, lift up hands) your commandments, which I *love* ('ahahvty).
-I will *meditate* ('asychah) on your statutes.

49: *remember* (zekor: the word for a male comes from this root; a *male* is a *remembrance* of a family) your word to your servant.

50: your promise *gives me life* (chyateny).

51: I *do not turn* (l'o natyty: in the sense of not stretching out in the opposite direction from the Torah) from your law.

52: I *think* (zakarty: again, the verbal root for a male; i.e., I *disseminate* your ordinances...) of your ordinances from of old.

53: the wicked who *forsake* (hozvy: implied is the sense of loosening bands; i.e., leaving a permanent relationship) your law.

54: your statutes have been my *songs* (zemiroth: from the verbal root to prune or cut off; also means to dance).

55: I *remember* (zakarty: zakar, a male with the intent of *begetting* God's *remembrance* at night, symbolic of forgetfulness) your name in the night.
-and *keep* ('eshemrah) your law.

56: I have *kept* (natsarty) your precepts.

57: I promise to *keep* (leshmor) your words.

58: be *gracious* (chaneny) to me according to your promise (ke'imrateha: from the verbal root to say which implies a bringing forth: *graciousness* is allied with such begetting in the form of speech).

59: I *turn* ('ashyvah) my feet to your testimonies.

60: I *hasten* (chashty)...to *keep* (lishmor) your commandments.

61: I *do not forget* (l'o shakachty: perhaps related to shakah, to wander) your law.

62: At midnight I rise to *praise* (lehodoth: from the verbal root whose basic meaning is to throw, cast; also implied is the sense of confessing) you because of your righteous ordinances.

63: I am a companion (chaver)...of those who *keep* (leshmry: verbal root of being fixed, made firm; an easy association to make with *companion* whose basic sense is one of being bound) your precepts.

64: *teach* (lamdeny) me your statutes.

66: *teach* (lamdeny) me good judgment and knowledge.

67: but now I *keep* (shamarty) your word.

68: *teach* (lamdeny) me your statutes.

69: with my whole heart I *keep* ('etsor: root implying to keep watch which is related to 'tsar, to lay up

treasures) your precepts.

70: I *delight* (shihashahty) in your law.

71: that I might *learn* ('elmad) your statutes.

73: give me understanding that I may *learn* ('elemdah) your commandments.

74: I have *hoped* (yichalty: verbal root suggests a remaining or delay with expectation) in your word.

77: for your law is my *delight* (shahashuhy).

78: I will *meditate* ('asyach) on your precepts.

79: that they may *know* (yodheu: implies intimate familiarity (intercourse) as in Gen 4.1: "Now Adam knew Eve his wife") your testimonies.

80: may my heart be *blameless* (tamym: root meaning is to complete, finish) in your statutes.

81: I *hope* (yichalty) in your word.

82: my eyes fail with *watching* (le'imrateka: literally, "to your word." The verb to watch is lacking; it literally reads, "my eyes *fail*," from the root to complete, finish as well as to be consumed) for your promise.

83: I have not *forgotten* (shakachty) your statutes.

85: *men who do not conform* ('asher lo ketoratka: to conform is lacking; literally, "*according* or *ky* to your law") to your law.

86: all your commandments are *sure* ('emunah: same root from which is derived faith or to be firm, established).

87: I have *not forsaken* (lo-hazavty) your precepts.

88: that I may *keep* ('eshmerah) the testimonies of your mouth.

92: if your law had not been my *delight*: shahashuha)

93: I will *never forget* (l'o-'eshkach) your precepts (literally, "precepts of your *mouth*;" the precepts and their source, mouth, are one and the same).

94: I have *sought* (darashty) your precepts.

95: I *consider* ('etbonan) your testimonies.

96: your commandment is *exceedingly broad* (rechabah me'od: an implication of expansive...in the temporal sense).

97: how I *love* ('ahavty) your law.

it is my *meditation* (sychaty) all the day ("all the day:" when things are visible, not necessarily "all night").

98: your commandment makes me *wiser* (techkmeny: wise in the sense of being skilled in something) than my enemies (literally, "*from* my enemies").

99: your testimonies are my *meditation* (sychah).

100: I *keep* (natsarty) your precepts.

101: in order to *keep* ('eshmor) your word.

102: I *do not turn aside* (l'o-sarty) from your ordinances.

104: through your precepts I *get understanding* ('etebonon).

105: your word is a *lamp* (ner) to my feet and a light ('or) to my path (the word or devar, something *spoken*, begets this two-fold illumination: one to the feet and the other to the way on which these feet walk).

106: to *observe* (lishmor) your righteous ordinances.

107: *give me live* (chayeny) according to your word.

108: *teach* (lamdeny) me your ordinances.

109: I *do not forget* (l'o shakachty) your law.

110: I *do not stray* (l'o talyty: straying in the sense of being deceived) from your precepts.

111: your testimonies are my *heritage* (nachalty: from the root to receive) forever...the *joy* (sesun) of my heart.

112: I incline my heart to *perform* (lahasoth) your statutes: first the heart must be inclined, natah or *extended* before performing the statutes).

113: I *love* ('ahavty) your law.

114: I *hope* (yichalty) in your word.

115: that I may *keep* ('etsrah) the commandments of my God.

116: *uphold* (samkeny: in the sense of sustaining or helping) me according to your promise.

117: and have *regard* ('eshhah: the verbal root implies a looking around as well as a looking away from; shahah also implies a smearing as in Is 32.3: then the eyes of those who see will not be *closed*') for your statutes *continually* (tamyd: the sense of being perfect or whole).

118: you spurn all who *go astray* (shogym) from your statutes.

119: I *love* ('ahavty) your testimonies.

120: I am *afraid of* (yar'ety: the root yar'e implies reverence; interesting to compare with ra'h, to see: in many uses these two words sound similar, and it is interesting to interchange them...see for *fear* and visa versa) your judgments.

124: and *teach* (lamdeny) me your statutes.

125: that I may *know* ('edhah) your testimonies.

127: I *love* ('ahavty) your commandments *above* gold, *above* fine gold (min, in the sense of *from* or in making a sharp distinction, here not only with respect to simple gold but with *fine* gold).

128: I *direct* (yisharty: in the sense of making straight) my steps by all your precepts.

129: my soul *keeps* (netsaratam) them [your testimonies].

130: the unfolding (patach: also means a loosening which then bestows light) of your words *gives light* (ya'yr).

it *imparts* (mevyn) understanding to the simple (petayaym: verbal root means to speak out, to open, hence, being open to persuasion).

131: I *long* ('esha'phah: to breathe hard, pant) for your commandments.

133: *keep steady* (haken) my steps according to your promise.

134: that I may *keep* ('eshemrah) your precepts.

135: *teach* (lamdeny) me your statutes.

136: men *do not keep* (l'o-shamru) your law.

139: my foes *forget* (shakchu) your words.

140: your servant *loves* ('ahevah) it [your promise].

141: I *do not forget* (l'o thakchty) your precepts.

142: your law is *true* ('emeth).

143: your commandments are my *delight* (shahshuhay).

144: your testimonies are *righteous* (tsedeq: in the sense of being straight) forever.

-give me understanding (havyneny) that I may live.

145: I will *keep* ('etsorah) your statutes.

146: that I may *observe* ('eshemrah) your testimonies.

147: I *hope* (yichalty) in your words.

148: that I may *meditate* (lasyach) upon your promise.

152: long have I *known* (yadahty) from your testimonies.

153: for I *do not forget* (l'o shakachty) your law.

154: give me *life* (chayeny) according to your promise.

155: for they [wicked] do not seek (l'o darashu) your statutes.

156: *give me life* (chayeny) according to your justice.

157: I *do not swerve* (l'o natyty) from your testimonies.

158 they [faithless] *do not keep* (l'o shamaru) your commands.

159: consider how I *love* ('ahavty) your precepts.

161: my heart *stands in awe* (pachad: verbal root means to tremble, fear) of your words.

162 I *rejoice* (sas) at your word.

163: but I *love* ('ahavty) your law.

164: seven times a day I *praise* (hilaltyka: the verbal root for alleluia; fundamental meaning is to be clear, brilliant. Another meaning: to be foolish because the more one boasts, the more one is foolish) you for your righteous ordinances.

165: great peace have those who *love* (le'ohavy) your law.

166: and I *do* (hasyty) your commandments.

167: my soul *keeps* (shamrah) your testimonies.

and I *love* ('ohavem) them exceedingly.

168: I *keep* (shamarty) your precepts and testimonies.

169: *give me understanding* (havyneny) according to your word.

170: *deliver* (hatsylny: verbal root means to pull away) me according to your word.

171: you *teach* (telamdyny) me your statutes.

173: for I have *chosen* (vacharty) your precepts.

174: your law is my *delight* (shahashuhy).
175: let your ordinances *help* (yahazruny) me.
176: for I *do not forget* (l'o shakachty) your commandments.

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Advent is a season which emphasizes the act of *watching*. Such expectation can apply to virtually all phases of the spiritual life as the following references reveal. Most have the Greek verb *gregoreo* which implies wakefulness; the other word, *phulasso*, implies a keeping guard. I take them from the Gospels and include several passages which apply to the negative aspect of watching:

Mt 14.25: And in the fourth *watch* of the night (tetarte phulake tes nuktos) he came to them, walking on the sea.

Mt 24.42: *Watch* (gregoreite) therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

Mt 24.43: But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night (literally, "in what watch," phulake) the thief was coming, he would have *watched* (egregoresen) and would not have let his house be broken into.

Mt 25.13: *Watch* (gregoreite) therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Mt 26.38: My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and *watch* (gregoreite) with me.

Mt 26.40: And he said to Peter, "So, could you not *watch* (gregoresai) with me one hour?"

Mt 26.41: *Watch* (gregoreite) and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

Mk 3.2: They *watched* (kaegoresosin) him to see whether he would heal him.

Mk 6.48: And about the fourth *watch* of the night (peri tetarten phulaken tes nuktos) he came to them, walking on the sea.

Mk 12.41: And he sat down opposite the treasury and *watched* (etheorei) the multitude putting money into the treasury.

Mk 13.33: Take heed, *watch* (agrutneite); for you do not know when the time will come.

Mk 13.34: It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the *watch* (gregore).

Mk 13.35: *Watch* (gregoreite) therefore--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

Mk 13.36-7: lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: *Watch* (gregoreite).

Mk 14.34: My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here and *watch* (gregoreite).

Mk 14.37: And he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not *watch* (gregoresai) one hour?"

Mk 14.38: *Watch* (gregoreite) and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

Lk 2.8: And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping *watch* (phulassontes phukakas) over their flock by night.

Lk 6.7: And the scribes and the Pharisees *watched* (pareterounto) him, to see whether he would heal on the sabbath.

Lk 12.38: If he comes in the second *watch* (en te trite phulake), or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants!

Lk 14.1: One sabbath when he went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were *watching* (parateroumenoi) him.

Lk 21.36: But *watch* at all times (agrutneite en panti kairo; note use of kairo which conveys the sense of "occasion"), praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man.

Lk 23.35: And the people stood by, *watching* (theonon; reference to Ps 22.7: "All who see me mock at me," in reference to the Crucifixion).