

Your Word and Your Ways, O Lord...

**Show That You Are Near,
Now Free Me, O Lord!**

Psalm 119:145-160

What's True of You Are Near – Now Free Me, O Lord

Downs & Ups – Yet More Downs & Ups...

Our life in his phase of our existence is largely characterized by the down and ups of circumstances. But it is in the midst of this reality that we experience a parallel reality of who God is and what a relationship with God means.

East of Eden and still far from Home...

- **Gen 3:23, 24; 3:14-19**
- **John 16:23; I Cor 10:13**

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Yet being a child of God does mean:

- no longer controlled and enslaved by sin!
- a supernatural power to rise above it all with joy that does not depend on the circumstances!
- a sure & certain future that far outweighs the burden of the present!

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Downs & Ups – Yet More Downs & Ups...

You are near, O Lord! (vs. 151)

The perspective of a bigger reality, parallel reality

Always (and still) intended for God's nearness

- Eden: walking with God in the cool of the day...**
- despite the curse, God draws near to us**
- John 14:17 ff.; Matt 28:20; Acts 17:24 ff.**

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Eyes opened to see a parallel reality

– II Kings 6:12-14

– Acts 7:55-58

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Parallel universes and dozens of dimensions?

(see mathematical physics' *String Theory*

– 'hidden dimensions beyond the ones we know?'

– 'are we part of a multi-dimensional mega-universe?'

– The spiritual dimension & Heaven: one of them?

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Downs & Ups – Yet More Downs & Ups...

You are near, O Lord! (vs. 151)

Free me, O Lord! (vs. 154, 156, 159)

- ‘preserve my life’ – ‘revive me’ – ‘quicken me’
- lift my burdens, remove what weighs me down
... so that life may become free and joyous again

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Downs & Ups – Yet More Downs & Ups...

You are near, O Lord! (vs. 151)

Free me, O Lord! (vs. 154, 156, 159)

Hard pressed but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair; struck down but not destroyed... Therefore we do not lose heart... for our light and momentary afflictions are achieving for us an eternal weight of glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal

II Cor 4