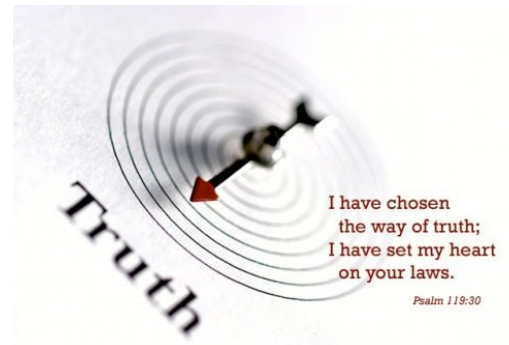


Psalm 119 & the Hebrew Aleph Bet - Part 16



The sixteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet is called “*Ayin*” (pronounced “**ah**-yeen”). Like *Aleph*, *Ayin* has no sound of its own, but usually has a vowel associated with it. *Ayin* has the numerical value of 70. In modern Hebrew, the letter *Ayin* can appear in three forms:

Book Print	Manual Print	Cursive

Writing the Letter: *Ayin* – Note that the top stroke has an “overhang” on the left.

	Note that the second stroke descends to the right of the end of the first stroke, looking almost like a “Y”.
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Ayin: Eye or Window of the Soul

The pictograph for *Ayin* looks something like an eye, whereas the classical Hebrew script (*Ketav Ashurit*) is constructed of a Yod (with a descending line) and embedded Zayin.



From the Canaanite pictograph, the letter morphed into the Phoenician/*ketav Ivri* , to the Greek letter Omicron, which eventually became the Latin letter “O.”

The word *Ayin* אֵינַי means “eye,” “to see,” and by extension, to understand and obey (see Jer. 5:21, Isa. 6:10, Matt. 13:15, etc.). *Ayin* further represents the spiritual Light of God mentioned in Gen. 1:3 (in distinction to celestial lights mentioned in Gen. 1:14-18). This divine Light is far greater than the light that emanates from the sun and stars. Though concealed in the Torah, the spiritual eye can behold the presence of this Radiance, but only by means of the spiritual Eyesight given by the *Ruach HaKodesh*.

Spiritual Meaning of the *Ayin*

Ayin = 70 and means “EYE”, “SIGHT” or “ENLIGHTENMENT”.



Ayin is for the word “Eye”. The *Ayin* shows two “Eyes” portraying how *Yahweh* is able to see both sides of every situation. It also appears that the two “Eyes” on top of the *Ayin* are looking to the left... to the Heart. This shows that *Yahweh*’s Sight penetrates the inward being, seeing the heart of every man. *1 Samuel 16:7* “... For *Yahweh* seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but *Yahweh* looketh on the heart.”

Ayin is sometimes described as having two eyes that connect to a common "optic nerve" that leads to the brain. The two eyes represent choice or the actions of the will (i.e., the heart). We can choose whether to use the good eye or the evil eye to perceive things; we can choose to see the glass as half full rather than half empty.

The word *Ayin* is used as “FACE to FACE”, literally meaning “EYE to EYE” in Numbers 14:14:

“...For they have heard that Thou *Yahweh* art among this people, that Thou *Yahweh* art seen Face to face, and that Thy Cloud standeth over them, and that Thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.”



Just as *Yah* met Face to face with Moses on Mount Sinai, so we will see our beloved Deliverer Face to face, when He soon returns to take us Home to the Heavenly Mount Zion:

“For now we see through a glass, darkly, but then, Face to face.”

1 Corinthians 13:12

When the eye is evil (*ayin ra*), it becomes a slave to the purposes of sin and the *yetzer hara* (the evil impulse).

Matthew 6:22-23 “The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that

The letter *Ayin* can be represented as the number 16 (from its ordinal position within the Alphabet), as 17 (from its component values of Yod (10) and Zayin (7)); as 70 (from its number within the alphabet), and as 130 (from its spelling: *Ayin* (70), Yod (10), and Nun (50)). The value 130 means “ladder (*selum*) of Sinai”, both words of which equal 130. This shows that the spiritual eye sees the Torah as the means of approaching God. This equates Torah observance with enlightenment.



Hebrew Words Beginning with *Ayin*:

Hebrew Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
עָנָה	<i>anavah</i>	“humility” (It is said that <i>Ayin</i> “sees” but does not speak, and therefore represents the attitude of humility (or <i>anavah</i>). <i>Anavah</i> begins with an <i>Ayin</i>)
עָבַד	<i>avodah</i>	“Service” (We are to render our service to <i>Yahweh</i> and to mankind without bragging about what we do, nor drawing attention to ourselves.) Thus, the silent letter <i>Ayin</i> begins the word for “service”.
עַל	<i>ol</i>	“yoke”- because the “yoke” of <i>Yahweh</i> is to learn meekness, it fits that the word “yoke” begins with an <i>Ayin</i> . <i>Yahweh</i> says His Yoke is easy and His Burden is light.
	<i>Avodah zara</i>	“Idolatry” – Idolatry, being a quiet undercurrent in the heart, is also part of the <i>Ayin</i> message. For when the Eye is not single for <i>Yah</i> , idolatry is present in the heart, even if hidden from view.

Ayin: The Word and the Spirit

Ayin is constructed from two Hebrew letters which we have already studied: *zayin* (on the left), attached to a large *yod* (on the right). It appears in *Torah* scrolls as shown below:



Zayin, as we have already studied, represents the “weapon” or “Sword of the Spirit”- the Word of *Yahweh*. The *Yod* represents the Works of *Yah* – His Creation – done through His Spirit. By combining these two letters to form the *Ayin*, *Yahweh* is illustrating that if we will walk according to His Word and His Spirit, we will dwell in true enlightenment, having the spiritual eyes to truly see Him.

Therefore –

If my spirit is filled with His Spirit (represented by the *yod*)...

And my mind is filled with His Thoughts (represented by the *zayin* – the Word of *Yah*)

Then my vision (represented by the *Ayin*) will be filled with Him and my eye will truly be SINGLE for *Yah*.



This principle is also seen in what *Yahshua* said concerning true worship. He said that those who worship *Yahweh* must do so “in spirit” (*yod*) and in Truth (*zayin*), for they are the kind of worshippers the Father looks for (*Ayin* – the eye of *Yahweh* goes to and fro throughout the whole earth, seeking hearts true to Him). These two components (the Word and Spirit) not only affect OUR eyes, but God’s EYES as well. Scripture tells us that the Eye of *Yahweh* is upon those who walk in the Spirit and the Word. The Bible instructs us to “live by faith and not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). Faith, however, must be grounded in the reliable Word of *Yahweh*.

These truths are also supported by the fact that, in Aramaic, the word “*Ayin*” means “sheep”. In Hebrew thought, the eye of the sheep is continuously looking towards the Shepherd, while the Eye of the Shepherd is continually watching over His sheep.

The Significance of 70

Ayin is the number 70, which is one of the most significant, Scriptural numbers. In Scripture we read that:

- 70 souls went into Egypt, from Jacob's family.
- 70 elders of Israel met with Yahweh on Mt. Sinai
- 70 sacrifices were made for the nations (during the festival of Sukkot)
- Israel was subject to 70 years of exile in Babylon, for their failure to keep the Sabbaticals.
- There were 70 languages given to mankind, when Yahweh struck the builders of Babel.
- There were 70 nations in the ancient world, formed by the joining of those who spoke the same language.
- Joseph, according to the book of Jasher, had to address the Pharaoh in all 70 of these ancient languages.
- There are 70 Names of God.
- There are 70 Holy Days in the Biblical Calendar: 52 Sabbaths, 7 days of Unleavened Bread, 1 day of Pentecost, 1 day of Trumpets, 1 day of Atonement, 7 days of Tabernacles, 1 day of the Last Great Day = 70 Holy Days

Ayin's y Connection with the Aleph x



Ayin is closely connected with the letter *Aleph*, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. *Aleph*, the “Master” of the alphabet, is similar in *Ayin* in that they are both silent letters. An important lesson is to be learned from this. We know that the *aleph* represents Yahweh – the one true and sovereign God. But why did He also designate *ayin* as a silent letter? The answer can be found in the Psalms. It says, “Be still and know that I Am God,” Psalm 46:10. The letter representing Yahweh and the letter representing SIGHT are both silent, because it is only in stillness (silence) that we may truly know (see) Him.

Only in silent intimacy do we grow to know Him and experience Him as He is. This is also illustrated by the fact that the word אֵין (*ayin*) means “a well”. When we commune with *Yah* in silence, we are able to drink deeply from the “Well” of Salvation. Only then will our spiritual thirst be satisfied (John 7:37).

Ayin's y Connection with the Gimel ג



One other letter is also constructed by combining a *yod* and a *zayin* – the letter *gimel*. *Gimel* pictures the Holy Spirit's Role as the Spirit of Truth bringing *Yah's* Messages to those in need. Looking closely at the *gimel*, as it appears in *Torah* scrolls, you will see how it is comprised of a *zayin* ז leaning upon a *yod* י (shown on left).

In the first connection, we learned that we must be filled with the Spirit of *Yahweh* and His Word. In the second connection, we learned that we truly come to know *Yah* as we practice being silent before Him. Both of these truths together equip us to fulfill the role illustrated by *gimel*. The *gimel* is the Elijah Message letter. The work of *Yah's* people is to bear the Elijah Message to the world, calling them to repentance and restoration of obedience to *Yahweh* and His *Torah*. We are able to do this work to the degree that we are walking in His Spirit and living by His Word. If we are filled with Bible knowledge, but do not have His Spirit, we are like a *gimel* without a foot, we will know the theory of Salvation, but lack a life which follows the Example of *Yahshua* and leaves down life-prints, leading others in His Steps. On the other hand, if we are filled with the Holy Spirit, but do not possess the understanding of the Scriptures, we will have zeal without Truth, resulting in sensuality and spreading confusion. We will then resemble the foot of the *gimel* without the *zayin* - just a *yod* rushing to and fro without Word or Direction.

The lessons of taught by the letter *ayin* are reflected in Paul’s prayer for the believers in Ephesus (Ephesians 1:18-19):

“The **eyes** (ׁ) of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may **know** (׃) what is the hope of His Calling, and what the riches of the glory of His Inheritance in the saints. And what is the exceeding greatness of **His Power** to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His **mighty Power** (ׁ).”

If we will walk in His Spirit, meditate upon His Word, and commune with Him in quietness, then Paul’s prayer will find fulfillment in our lives.

Warnings in the Ayin

Ayin also contains several warnings against walking according to mere human sight. During the times of the Judges, God’s primary criticism of His people was that every man “did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 17:6; 21:25). And in the Sermon on the Mount, *Yahshua* refers to the “eye” twelve times (the number of His Kingdom), warning against its misuse. Let us examine some of His remarks and consider how they are illustrated by the Hebrew alphabet.



Matthew 5:29 “And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.”

If our conduct is dictated only by what we see, then we have little hope of seeing the Kingdom of Heaven. In Ecclesiastes, Solomon used the phrase “under the sun” twenty-seven times, and emphasized each time that the things which we can see and pursue in this physical realm (“under the sun”) are all “vanity” (empty, pertaining to death and fruitless).

This truth is demonstrated by what happens to the WORD AYIN, when the first letter *ayin* is replaced by the letter *aleph*:

Hebrew Word	First letter	Meaning
ׁ (word: <i>ayin</i>)	ׁ (letter <i>ayin</i>)	<i>Ayin</i> means that we keep our sight by keeping our eyes on the Shepherd and His Word.
ׁ (word: <i>iyin</i>)	ׁ (letter <i>aleph</i>)	This substitution in first letters changes <i>ayin</i> (eye and sight) to <i>iyin</i> , which means “nothingness, falsehood, or vanity”. When we “self-contain” god... we lose sight of the true <i>Yahweh</i> , becoming temporal and idolatrous. Our imaginations (beliefs and thinking) are iniquity.

The Precise Moment When Ayin Becomes Iyin: Bitterness

If we have been self-containing “god”, we are living in iniquity. We have then been living in false ideas and imaginations. The Bible calls false ideas (which are not according to the True Word) strongholds of iniquity. Regaining this surrendered ground in the soul is vital to being free from demonic strongholds and walking in the Spirit in Truth.

So how can we tear down the strongholds of false ideas and regain the ground of soul for the Kingdom of *Yahweh*? To answer this, follow the directions to fill in a table and draw a diagram on how bitterness develops and on strongholds in the soul. What may surprise many is that the root cause of what allowed the stronghold of false ideas to be set up in our souls is usually bitterness. We may be unaware that we have bitterness (we may just say we were deeply hurt by so-and-

so), but if we harbor false ideas, these are evidence of the strongholds which come from giving the devil ground in our souls by becoming bitter.

- [Ephesians 4:26-27](#) "...Let not the sun go down upon your wrath. Neither give place to the devil."
- [Hebrews 12:15](#) "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled."

Because most problems in the adult soul are really usually unresolved conflicts from when they were youths, we're going to track when *ayin* becomes *iyin* in the heart of a teen. If these conflicts are left unresolved they will manifest in adulthood as a person who is spiritually crippled, unable to see (*ayin*) and has enthroned self (self-containing god) – a condition which always produces strongholds of iniquity and false beliefs (*iyin*). (The following is from *Basic Youth Conflicts*)

Stages of Teen's Inner Conflicts	Scriptural Insight	Areas	Teen's Visible Sign of Inner Conflict	Parent's "Natural" (Wrong) Response
1. Wounded Spirit (<i>wrong response to pain – taking up offense</i>)	Hebrews 12:15	FAMILY Bitterness develops against	Communication Breakdown (<i>teen is silent, sullen towards offending parent</i>)	Justify Himself (<i>if the parent responds this way, teen goes to Stage 2</i>)
2. Alienation of Affection (<i>doesn't love the offending parent</i>)	2 Timothy 3:2			
3. Rejection of God-given Authority (<i>deems parent as unfit to lead</i>)	1 Samuel 15:23	FRIENDS	Stubborn (<i>teen displays signs of disobedience</i>)	Nag (<i>teen goes to Stage 4</i>)
4. Self as Authority (<i>ayin עין becomes iyin אין</i>)	Isaiah 14:14	COURTSHIP	Rebellion (<i>teen usurps the role of God-given authorities</i>)	Restrict (<i>teen goes to Stage 5</i>)
5. Seek Compatibility (<i>support in rebellion</i>)	Philippians 3:19, Proverbs 14:9	SELF IMAGE	Wrong Friends (<i>teen seeks friends who share his/her rebellion</i>)	F.B.I. – Family Bureau of Investigation (<i>teen goes to Stage 6</i>)
6. Sensual Fulfillment (<i>Loss of purity in act</i>)	Galatians 5:19-21	FUTURE	Defend Sensuality (<i>asks, "What's wrong with ____?"</i>)	Condemn or Condone (<i>teen goes to Stage 7</i>)
7. Guilt ("I am not a good person.")	Romans 2:1-3	SEARCH FOR EXCITEMENT / Boredom or Deep Depression (<i>teen is unstable</i>)	Condemning Others (<i>teen is quick to see others' faults - hypocrisy</i>)	Defends "Judgmental" Teen (<i>teen goes to Stage 8</i>)
8. Thoughts of Suicide (<i>mental, moral, spiritual, or physical</i>)	Proverbs 14:12-13			Don't Know What to Do ???? (<i>teen destroyed</i>)

Four Types of Suicide:

1. **MENTAL SUICIDE** – Drugs, false philosophies and beliefs
 - **Drugs:** decreasing mental responsibility – *2 Corinthians 10:5*
 - **False philosophies:** leaves Messiah out – *Colossians 2:8*

TREATMENT: repentance, fasting, memorizing Scripture

2. **MORAL SUICIDE** – Surrendering to sensuality
 - **Resistance to evil = Basis of life**
 - **Consequences of lust = more lust** – *Galatians 6:7*

TREATMENT: repentance, fasting, memorizing Scripture

3. **SPIRITUAL SUICIDE** – Involvement in the occult
 - **Three stages of spiritual suicide:** 1) Reject God's Word, 2) Accept immorality, 3) Satanic worship
 - **Consequences:** irrational fears, nervousness, illogical and fragmented thinking, inability to respond to God.

TREATMENT: Confess specific involvement – 1 John 1:9, Claim the Name and Blood of Yahshua for healing and deliverance – Revelation 12:11, cleanse life and home of all occult items – Deut. 7:25-26

4. **PHYSICAL SUICIDE** – Death
 - *Hebrews 9:27*

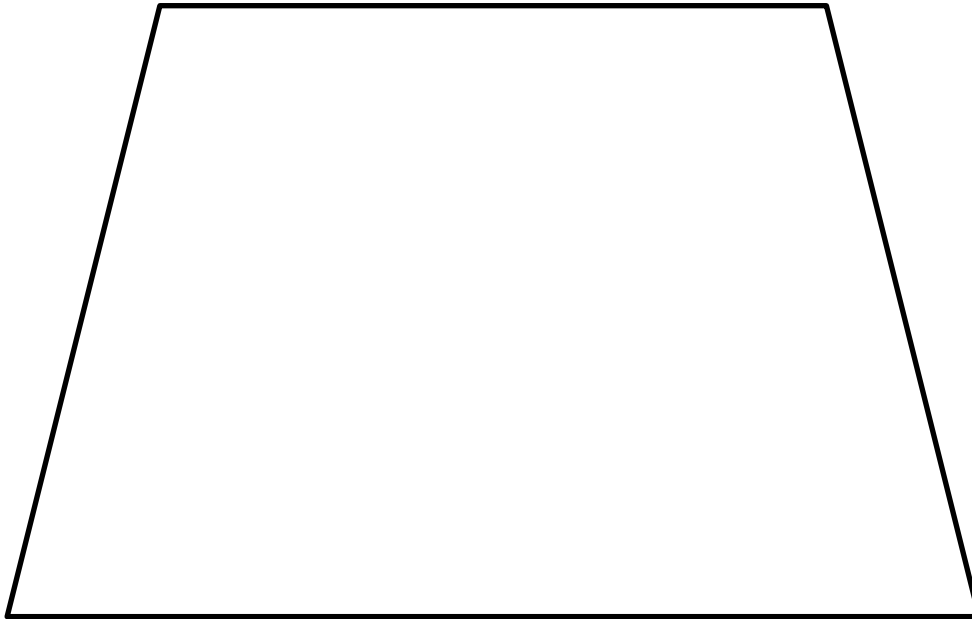
Tearing Down the Strongholds of Bitterness

Complete the following directions on the next page (in the blank area). If the directions are unclear, you can look at the completed study to see how the diagram and table should appear, when finished.

1. In the box, on the next page, draw a 6x7 grid and label it "MY SOUL". The soul is made up of our minds (thinking), wills (desires) and emotions (feelings). It is differentiated from our spirits (Hebrews 4:12).
2. Darken one square – According to Ephesians 4:26-32, we surrender an area of our souls to Satan when we are bitter towards someone. Satan then has the legal right to construct a stronghold on his property within our souls.
3. Draw the stronghold (a castle) on the darkened square – a stronghold is a mind-set, a way of thinking, a conclusion that is contrary to Scripture. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 connects strongholds with false ideas or "imagination". Acting on a stronghold of false ideas is iniquity (Ezekiel 21:23).
4. Draw arrows coming out from the stronghold to other squares on the grid. God tells us in Scripture that He will turn us over to the tormentors, if we do not forgive our offenders (Matthew 18:34).
5. Write the tormentors in each square where the arrows point: doubts, fear, lust, perversion, anxiety, depression, self-rejection, sleeplessness, illness. Psychiatrists give medication for the tormentors. Psychologists give advice to help you alleviate and manage the tormentors. But only God can heal you of them. You need to ask Him to get the ground back that was given to the devil in your soul. No other response works.
6. Write down the steps of action – from the Scriptures.
7. Follow the steps of action.

Tearing Down the Strongholds in the Soul and Restoring Ayin from Iyin

BATTLE GROUND OF THE SOUL



Soul: your mind, will and emotion – vs. spirit – Hebrews 4:12

Ground: jurisdictional area (place in your soul) – Ephesians 4:27

Stronghold: mind-set and conclusion contrary to Scripture – false ideas “imagination” – 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Tormentors: afflictions allowed by God as judgments to teach us mercy – Matthew 18:34

Principality: a ruler of evil over an area of jurisdiction – Ephesians 6:12

Iniquity: acting on a stronghold of false ideas – Ezekiel 21:23

Scriptural Steps of Action:

1. *(Hebrews 12:15, 1 John 1:9)* _____

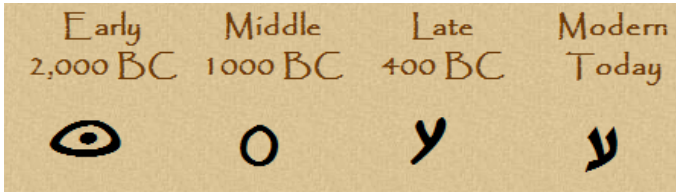
2. *(1 John 1:7, Col. 2:14-17)* _____


3. *(Psalm 23:3)* _____

4. *(2 Corinthians 10:4-5)* _____

5. *(Matthew 6:14-15)* _____

Ayin in Paleo Hebrew:



The ancient picture for this letter is a picture of an eye . This letter represents the ideas of seeing and watching as well as knowledge as the eye is the window of knowledge.

This letter is silent in modern Hebrew. There is no indication that the ancient Semitic had a sound for this letter as well and appears to have been silent in the past. The Greek language assigned the vowel sound "o" to the letter. As Hebrew did not have one letter for the "o" sound the Greeks took this silent letter and converted it into a vowel.

The name of the letter is *ayin*, a Semitic word meaning eye.

Psalms 119:121-128 Shows the Ayin:

In Psalms 119:121-128, we find the *Ayin* section. In this part of Psalms 119, we see what it means to have true enlightenment. Eyes on the Shepherd... and His Eyes are upon those who do so.

	ע	16 AYIN
עשיתי משפט וצדק בלתיניחני לעשקי:	121	I have done what is just and righteous.
MISHPAT		Don't leave me to my oppressors.
ערב עבדך לטוב אליעשקני ודים:	122	Ensure your servant's well-being.
		Don't let the proud oppress me.
עיני פלו לישועתך ולאמרת צדקך:	123	My eyes fail looking for your salvation,
IMRAH		for your righteous word .
עשה עםעבדך כחסדך וחוקיך למדני:	124	Deal with your servant according to your loving
CHOQ		kindness. Teach me your statutes .
עבדך אני הביגני ואדעה עדתך:	125	I am your servant. Give me understanding,
EDAH		that I may know your testimonies .
עת לעשות ליהוה הפרו תורתך:	126	It is time to act, Yahweh,
TORAH YHWH		for they break your law .
עלכן אהבתי מצותיך מזהב ומפז:	127	Therefore I love your commandments more than
MITSVAH		gold, yes, more than pure gold.
עלכן אכלפקודי כל ישרתי כלארץ שקר שנאתי:	128	Therefore I consider all of your precepts to be right.
PIQUWD		I hate every false way.

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:121-122 (words starting with *Ayin* are highlighted)

“AIN. I **have done** **judgment** and **justice**: **leave** me not to **mine oppressors**. **Be surety** for Thy servant for good: let not the proud **oppress me**.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
<i>Have done</i>			
Judgment			
Justice			
Leave			
Mine Oppressors			
Be surety			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:123-124 (words starting with *Ayin* are highlighted)

“**Mine eyes** fail for **Thy Salvation**, and for the Word of Thy Righteousness. **Deal** with Thy servant according unto **Thy Mercy**, and teach me Thy Statutes.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Mine eyes			
Thy Salvation			
Deal			
Thy Mercy			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:125-126 (words starting with *Ayin* are highlighted)

“I am **Thy servant**; give me **understanding**, that I may know Thy Testimonies. **It is time** for Thee, LORD, **to work**: for they (the word “they” is not in the original) have made void **Thy Law**.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Thy servant			
Understanding			
It is time			
To Work			
Thy Law			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:127-128 (words starting with *Ayin* are highlighted)

“**Therefore** I love Thy Commandments above gold; yea, above **fine gold**. Therefore I esteem all Thy Precepts concerning all things to be **right**; and **I hate** every **false** way.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Therefore			
Fine gold			
Right			
I hate			
False			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Psalm 119:121-128 Reveals the *Ayin*

Message:

(write your own personal "Bible Commentary" Message about these verses, now that you've studied them. Include Cross-reference Scriptures.)

Personal Application:

1. What was the most personally meaningful message of the *Ayin* that you found in this study?

2. What insights about *Yahweh* did you gain?