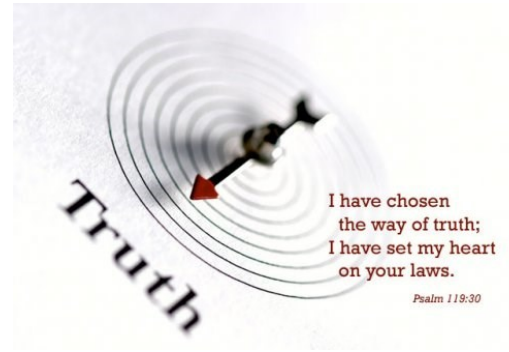


Psalms 119 & the Hebrew Aleph Bet - Part 21



The twenty-first letter of the Hebrew alphabet is called “*Shin*” (pronounced “*sheen*”) and has the sound of “sh” as in “shy”. It appears in the following three forms:

			<small>If the dot appears on the left of the letter, <i>Shin</i> is called “<i>Shin</i>” (“<i>sheen</i>”) and is pronounced as “sh” as in <i>sun</i>.</small> The Letter Shin
Book Print	Manual Print	Cursive	

Writing the Letter: *Shin*

 The Letter Shin	To write the <i>Shin</i> , start at the top right, swoop down, coming up at the far left, as if drawing a capital E lying on its back. Then draw the middle bar. Lastly, add the dot.
---------------------	---

The letter *Shin*, the last in our third series of letters, completes many themes and insights contained in the preceding twenty letters. *Shin* represents the “totality of an overall process, one that is *shaleem* (שלם). *Shaleem* means “whole, full, complete”. The word *Shalom* (peace) comes from *shaleem*. The phrase “perfect peace” in Hebrew is *shalom shaleem*. Why is the word for “peace” derived from a root that means “full” and “complete”? Peace is much more than the mere absence of conflict; it is the culmination of process – an internal one. It is a perfect state of being, which is not affected by the circumstances surrounding it. When we are able to hold this kind of peace in the soul, we are perfected in Messiah.

The King and the Peace Contest - There once was a king who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of peace. Many artists tried and submitted their work. The king looked at all the pictures. There were only two he really liked, and he had to choose between them.

One picture was of a calm lake, perfectly mirroring the peaceful, towering mountains all around it. Overhead was blue sky with fluffy, white clouds. It was the favorite of all who saw it. Truly, they thought, it was the perfect picture of peace.

The other picture had mountains, too, but these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell and in which lightning played. Down the side of one mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. A less peaceful picture would be difficult to imagine. But when the king looked closely, he saw beside the waterfall a tiny bush growing in a crack in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird on her nest in perfect peace.



The king chose the second picture. “Because,” explained the king, “peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble, or hard work. Peace means to be in the midst of all these things and still be calm in your heart. This is the real meaning of peace.” **Real Peace is in your Heart, and is not dependent on the external circumstances.**

Spiritual Meaning of the *Shin*

Shin = SH, S and 300 and means “SOMETHING SHARP”, “TO DEVOUR, CONSUME” and “PEACE”
 “PROTECTION”



Shin means, “Something sharp” “to devour, consume, or destroy.” It also portrays the “point of a rock”.

“Behold, the Day of *Yahweh* cometh... to lay the land DESOLATE; and He shall DESTROY the sinners thereof out of it.” Isaiah 13:9.

Shin is for the word “Shalom”, which means “peace”. By devouring and consuming sin, *Yahweh* brings ultimate Peace!

Messiah is called “Sar Shalom” meaning “The Prince of Peace.” “And His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6.

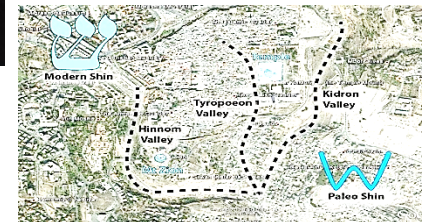


Shin is for “El Shaddai”, the Name of God as the One Who is unlimited, Who is all-sufficient, and Who is powerful enough to meet all our needs. When we fully recognized this Truth, we will be at PEACE (Shalom) no matter our circumstances.

The letter *Shin* appears on the *mezuzah* (“doorpost”) – which contains the *Shema*. The command to write the *Shem* on the door frames of the home is taken literally, resulting in the appearance of the *mezuzah* on the doorposts. The letter *Shin*, which appears on the *mezuzah*, stands for three things:

- שומר *Shomer* – Guardian
- שדי *Shaddai* – El *Shaddai*
- שמע *Shema* – Hear!

The letter *Shin* is also formed by the landforms in Jerusalem.



The *SHEMA*

“Hear, O Israel: *Yahweh* our God is one (exclusively, first, supreme) *Yahweh*. And thou shalt love *Yahweh* thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. **And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.**” (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

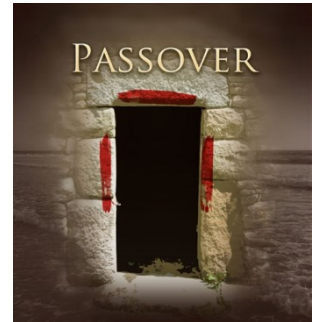
Hebrew Words Beginning with *Shin*:

Hebrew Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
שַׁעַר הַשָּׁמַיִם	<i>Sha'ar hashamayim</i>	The gate to Heaven – when Jacob awoke from his dream of the ladder to Heaven (Genesis 28), he was so awestruck that he called the place “the House of God (<i>Bet Elohim</i>) and the “Gate of Heaven” (<i>sha'ar hasamayim</i>).
שַׁעֲטָנָז	<i>Sha'at nayz</i>	Any fabric made of wool mixed with linen - Two verses in the <i>Torah</i> prohibit wearing fabric combining wool and linen (Leviticus 19:19 and Deuteronomy 22:11). <i>Shaatnez</i> is considered to be a metaphor against mingling the holy and the profane.
שַׁבָּת	<i>Shabbat</i>	Sabbath – This is the seventh Day, the Day of Rest (Exodus 20:8). It is observed from sunset Friday evening to sundown Saturday evening, marked by rest, worship and Bible study.
שַׁבְּתוֹן	<i>Shabbahtohn</i>	Rest, cessation from work, a vacation – one of the seven annual Sabbaths, 4 of which are known as <i>Shabbat Shabbaton</i> .

Shomer: The Guardian of Peace



The presence of the *mezuzah* on the doorpost serves as a constant visual reminder of the first Passover, when the blood of the Passover Lamb was placed on the lintel and the doorposts of each saved home. On that memorable night, the angel of death passed through the land of Egypt and struck dead the firstborn of both man and beast. God commanded everyone to remove a lamb from the flock and place its blood on the exterior door frame of the home because:



Exodus 12:13 “*And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.*”

The Passover Lamb is one of the Bible’s premiere figures of *Yahshua*.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 “*Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even **Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:** Therefore let us keep the Feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*”



John 1:29 “*The next day John seeth *Yahshua* coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.***”

Yahweh commanded His people to observe the Passover, on the 14th day of Abib (or Nissan), the same day on which *Yahshua* was crucified almost 1500 years later as the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.

The blood of the Passover lamb on the doorpost signified the Protection of the Almighty. *Yah* Himself was the Guardian of all that were in the blood-covered house. In the same way, the presence of the *Mezuzah* on the

doorpost signifies that within this house dwells a family which has claimed the blood of the Passover Lamb (ultimately Christ, although most Jews do not connect this full picture) and is faithful to Hear *Yahweh* and obey His *Torah*. As such, the family can be at peace, trusting the unseen and ever-present Guardianship of *Yahweh* over the house.

How Far Should we Go – in Hearing God? Extreme Love – ultimate Shema

How much do you love your Heavenly King? Are you thankful to Him for all the love and blessings He has showered upon you? Just how far are willing to go to demonstrate your love for *Yahweh*? Do you love Him enough to go to the extreme?

A mighty warrior of valor is much more than a high ranking officer who leads soldiers into battle. In Spiritual terms, a TRUE mighty warrior of valor is any true Christian who is in THE KING'S Army and is willing to go yet one step farther – beyond the comforting safe zone – beyond the limits of what even seems possible – to see that his KING'S needs and desires are taken care of.

A true warrior of valor is one who would risk his or her own life, just to see that their KING gets a cool drink of water.

Throughout history there have been countless battles, in which innumerable soldiers have fought. But for those who merely fought, doing only the minimum required or just what had to be done, their names are buried in the sands of time. They were present, serving their king, yet they aren't remembered because they didn't love their king enough to go beyond the ordinary.

Yet, going beyond the ordinary is exactly what it takes to be a mighty warrior of valor. And in all those countless battles, the Mighty Warriors of Valor ARE remembered, to this day – not for WHO they were - so much as for WHAT THEY DID to demonstrate their EXTREME love and commitment to their King. Where soldiers just show up and do what is required, a Mighty Warrior of Valor goes above and beyond what is merely required, to honor his king.

What does it mean to be a mighty warrior of valor in the Cause of God? What does it take? In King David's day, there were thousands of soldiers who drew the sword in defense of Israel. From out of all these warriors, thirty-seven of them earned a special place, being remembered in *Yahweh's* Word as special, righteous warriors of special valor, whose heroic deeds are immortalized in Scripture. Of these 37 warriors of valor, three earned an even greater special distinction, for a specific act of selfless service to their king. God honored these three men, above all the rest, and we remember them as MIGHTY WARRIORS OF VALOR.

So what happened to cause them to be remembered in this way? In the time of King David's reign, the Philistines had invaded Israel, pitching their encampment in the valley of *Rephaim*. A garrison of the Philistines had control of Bethlehem.

King David was in a stronghold, the cave of Adullam. This photo was taken looking out through entrance of a cave in Adullam Grove National Park. In the book of 2 Samuel, David, battle-weary and beleaguered, is recorded as longing for a drink of water from a well by the gate of Bethlehem. This must have been a very special well, with very delicious water, so much so that David was longing for a drink of it.



But even in David's wish for a drink of this water, there was the sense of

how impossible it would be to receive this desire. For Bethlehem was the hold of the enemy.

2 Samuel 23:14-15 *“And David was then in an hold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem. And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!”*

King David didn't order anyone to get him a drink of water! He was just thinking out loud. All of David's men would still be wonderful and obedient soldiers, who had done their duty to David, without satisfying the king's impossible wish. But for three of David's men, just doing their duty wasn't enough. They were so loyal to David and so committed to serving him, that carrying out his slightest wishes was something they determined to do.

But before we finish this part of the story, let's look into the backstory of these three mighty warriors of valor.



The leader among the three was Adino the Eznite. He had already become renowned for lifting his spear against 800 enemy warriors. Adino slew them all single-handedly in one battle, thereby earning himself the roll of leader among the three Captains. The story is found in 2 Samuel 23:8:

“These be the names of the mighty men whom David had: The Tachmonite that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite: he lifted up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time.”

Next was Eleazar. In the Name of *Yahweh*, he had defied the Philistines to their face. And when he was all by himself, he attacked them! He fought with them for so long that his hand became cramped around his sword and he couldn't turn it loose. The Bible says that *Yahweh* used him to bring a great victory to Israel that day. It says the other soldiers only returned in time to strip the armor off the fallen enemy and loot their bodies. We find this account in 2 Samuel 23:9-10:

“And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David, when they defied the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away. He arose, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword: and Yahweh wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to spoil.”

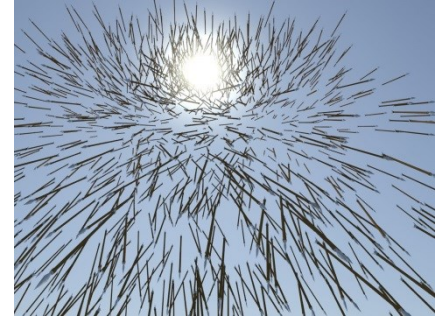
And the third of these Mighty Warriors of Valor was *Shammah*. Once, while the rest of the army of Israel retreated from the advancing Philistine army, *Shammah* refused to give ground. He stood alone, in a field of lentils to defend Israel. And *Yahweh* used him to stop the Philistines in their tracks, without any human help. It's found in 2 Samuel 23:11-12.

“And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentils: and the people fled from the Philistines. But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and Yahweh wrought a great victory.”

These three Mighty Warriors of Valor overheard David's musing. Maybe they kind of looked at each other across the cave. They knew what each other was thinking. They looked around. No one else seemed to be paying attention to what the king had said. Without a word, they each quietly got up. They retrieved their weapons from where they lay, close at hand. Slowly, they made their way through the crowd of other soldiers

all gathered in the cave with David. At last, when they were out of the crowd, their paths joined. No one noticed their leaving, as they disappeared over the crest of the rise.

The Bible tells us that these three “broke through the host (or army) of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate.” The Bible account is so short that it almost makes this feat seem easy, but, in actuality, it was probably more like this...



Together, Adino, Eleazar and Shammah approached the walled, fortified city of Bethlehem on foot. The Philistines would have seen them coming from a mile away. When they were in range, the archers on the walls would have let fly every arrow in their quivers.

Undaunted by the arrows that rained down upon them, Adino, Eleazar and Shammah brought it on. As they neared the wall, the enemy infantry would have swarmed from the gates and fallen upon them with sword and spear. But these three Mighty Men of Valor, under the power of God, met their foe and drove back the incomprehensibly overwhelming hoard!



At last, they reached the well. Then what had been three swords united against an overwhelming number of enemy soldiers became only two swords, as one of the mighty men was forced to stop fighting long enough to lower a vessel into the cool depths of the well. When he brought up the water vessel and filled his flagon with the delicious well-water, the warrior again joined the intense fighting, careful to insure that he didn't lose his precious cargo.

By this time, the whole city would have been alerted to the invasion. The three “Mighties” would have had to fight their way out of the gates and away from the walls. How far did the Philistine soldiers pursue them? Did they hound them out into the desert, leaving a trail of dead and dying Philistines to mark the three warriors' path? Or were the Philistines stunned by the carnage wreaked within their walls by so small a fighting force and just happy to see them all leave? We aren't told. But the Bible does say that they made it back to cave of Adullam in victory.

As quietly as they had left, they returned. The three warriors came before their beloved king without fanfare and extended the vessel for him to drink. But when David saw the blood that still oozed from crusted battle wounds, when he smelled the death and battle that clung to their clothing, his soul was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the love and devotion these men had demonstrated for Yahweh, Israel and their king. David's heart was filled with gratitude and humility at such devotion.

2 Samuel 23:16-17 *“And the three mighty men brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto Yahweh. And he said, Be it far from me, O Yahweh, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives? Therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mighty men.”*

The selfless sacrifice and devotion displayed by these wonderful warriors was so off the charts that David's response and gratitude in receiving this expensive gift needed to be of equal magnitude – and it was. The highest honor any drink can be given is to be used as a drink offering, poured out in worship of the Almighty. This is the honor David gave to this Bethlehem water, brought to him at such risk and cost, brought by devoted

men, under the power of the Almighty, who went WAY beyond the call of duty in their desire to please their king.

Similarly, in *Yahweh's* Kingdom there are special Mighty Warriors of Valor, who go above and beyond the normal call of duty. They aren't content to do only what is asked or expected of them. So great is their love of their King, that they delight in pleasing Him in even the smallest things, doing things which most would find unnecessary.



Among *Yahshua's* disciples, there were three of this caliber. They were Peter, James and John. And of these three, John was especially beloved. It wasn't that *Yahshua* didn't love and teach all of His disciples, its that these ones were not content with normal duty. They went above and beyond. Consequently, *Yahshua* took them places and let them behold glories that none of the other disciples were able to behold – like the Mount of Transfiguration.

It wasn't that God was giving these men special treatment, while leaving the others out of the inner loop. The special treatment was bestowed because these men loved especially much and sought to be closer to the King than did all the rest. And their extra devotion was rewarded by Heaven, just as were David's three Mighty Men.

So how does one do this today? How does one leave the masses of Christianity, and pursue a relationship with God that is deeper still? How does a person today go about becoming a spiritual Mighty Warrior of Valor willing to risk his own life just to see that their King gets that desired drink of water?

THIS IS THE MESSAGE OF THE SHIN – IT IS COMPLETE PERFECTION – TOTALITY AND WHOLEHEARTEDNESS FOR GOD

Being such a mighty warrior of valour all starts with a heartfelt desire. The Revelation of *Yahweh* that we are blessed to receive is proportionate to our level of seeking. So, if we're content to just go to church once a week, attend the occasional campmeeting, and have the basic worship times with *Yahweh* each day, our relationship with God will be proportionate to this level of investment. But, if we aren't content with merely keeping the wonderful *mo'eds* (Feasts from Leviticus 23) – the Divinely given appointed times with *Yahweh* – but rather seek to give Him those times AND more beyond, we will begin to discover the Revelation of *Yahweh* on a much deeper level still.

Jeremiah 29:13 *“And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.”*

Think about it! DO you admire the relationship Moses had with *Yahweh*? Do you desire to have an intimate walk with God like David's? Do you really? Do you know that YOU CAN have that walk with God – if only you will break out of the boundaries of what is merely required and throw your whole heart and soul into doing that which pleases your KING, going BEYOND – FAR BEYOND. This is the kind of people *Yahweh* is looking for.

2 Chronicles 16:9 *“For the eyes of Yahweh run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...”*

If you're feeling that your own soul is more like dry and dead bones – and your heart is worlds away from that level of love for *Yahweh* – then I want to remind you of the promise *Yahweh* made to us through the prophet Ezekiel:

Ezekiel 37:11-14 *“Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith Yahweh GOD; Behold, O My people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I Am Yahweh, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I Yahweh have spoken it, and performed it, saith Yahweh.”*

Remember, David's three Mighty Men of Valor conquered the Philistines of Bethlehem and brought water to the king, not in their own strength alone. *Yahweh* empowered them to do those mighty deeds. This is why the Bible says “and *Yahweh* wrought a great victory” through these men.

How far you go with God is really YOUR choice. So now the question comes to you, “Just how far DO you want to go with *Yahweh*?”

Isaiah 40:31 *“But they that wait upon Yahweh shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”*

Shin: The Letter of Flame

The Hebrew letter *shin* looks a bit like a flame. This is not an accident. Hebrew tradition teaches that the *shin* is essentially fire and flame. Fire consumes. When the *shin* follows an *aleph*, the word *eesh* אש (fire) is created. Also, when the *shin* is followed by the *aleph*, the word *sah* אש is created, which means to “go up” or “ascend” as a flame. The greatest fire in our universe – the sun – begins and ends with *shin* (*shemesh*) שמש. Interestingly, *shin*'s numerical value (300) has Biblical connections to flame.



Gideon attacked the Midianites with only 300 men armed with flaming torches in one hand and swords in the other (Judges 7:16-22). Also, Samson burned the fields of his enemies by releasing 300 foxes with torches tied to their tails.

Let us read the description of the Holy Spirit's Coming, as recorded in Acts:

Acts 2:1-4 *“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

Pentecost is the holy Feast Day which commemorates the giving of the *Torah* to Moses on Mt. Sinai. At that event, God descended upon the mountain in Flame, Smoke, and Thunder to meet with His people. 1500 years later, to the day, the Holy Spirit descended upon the faithful with tongues of fire.

The *shin*, the letter of flame, appears on the head of every person who sought His Presence. This is true Perfection, Completion and Peace – This is the ultimate Message of the letter *Shin*.

Psalms 119:161-168 Shows the *Shin*: In Psalms 119:161-168, we find the *Shin* section. In this part of Psalms 119, we see what it means to have a heart that is “perfect towards Yahweh”. We also find the keys to having perfect Peace”:

119:161 *SHIN*. Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of Thy Word.
119:162 I rejoice at Thy Word, as one that findeth great spoil.
119:163 I hate and abhor lying: but Thy Law do I love.
119:164 Seven times a day do I praise thee because of Thy righteous Judgments.
119:165 Great peace have they which love Thy Law: and nothing shall offend them.
119:166 LORD, I have hoped for Thy Salvation, and done Thy Commandments.
119:167 My soul hath kept Thy Testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.
119:168 I have kept Thy Precepts and Thy Testimonies: for all my ways are before Thee.

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:161-162 (words starting with *Shin* are highlighted)

“**Princes** have **persecuted** me **without a cause**: **but my heart** standeth in awe of Thy Word. I **rejoice** at Thy Word, as one that findeth great **spoil**.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Princes			
Persecuted			
Without a cause			
But my heart			
Spoil			

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

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:163-164 (words starting with *Shin* are highlighted)

“**I hate** and abhor **lying**: but Thy Law do I love. **Seven times a day** do I praise thee because of Thy righteous Judgments.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
I Hate			
Lying			
Seven			
Times a Day			

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

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:165-166 (words starting with *Shin* are highlighted)

“Great **peace** have they which love **Thy Law**: and nothing shall **offend them**. LORD, I have hoped for **Thy Salvation**, and done Thy Commandments.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Peace			
Thy Law			
Offend them			
Thy Salvation			

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

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalms 119:167-168 (words starting with *Shin* are highlighted)

“My soul **hath kept** Thy Testimonies; and I love them exceedingly. I have kept Thy Precepts and Thy Testimonies: for **all my ways** are before thee.

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Hath kept			
All my ways			

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

Cross References:

