

# 'Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet, and a Light Unto My path.'

by Robert Murray M'Cheyne

---

*God's Word serves as a lamp and light, guiding us through life's challenges and offering comfort and hope in times of affliction.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 23:4, Psalm 119:105, Isaiah 30:21, John 14:27, Acts 27:23-24

**Topics:** "Guidance", "Comfort in Trials"

---

## Description

Robert Murray M'Cheyne emphasizes the guiding power of God's Word, comparing it to the fiery pillar that led Israel through the wilderness. He reflects on how Scripture provides direction in times of confusion and fear, much like the angelic reassurance given to Paul during a storm at sea. M'Cheyne also highlights the comfort found in God's Word during life's trials, including the ultimate peace in facing death, as exemplified by Stephen's martyrdom. He expresses a deep love for God's law, which serves as a lamp and light in dark times, guiding believers through their spiritual journeys.

---

## Transcript

When Israel knew not where to go,

God made the fiery pillar glow;

By night, by day, above the camp

It led the way - their guiding lamp;

Such is Thy Holy Word to me

In day of dark perplexity.

When devious paths before me spread,

And all invite my foot to tread

I hear Thy voice behind me say -

"Believing soul, this is the way,

Walk thou in it." O gentle Dove,  
How much Thy holy law I love!  
My lamp and light  
In the dark night.

When Paul amid the seas seemed lost  
By Adrian billows wildly tossed,  
When neither sun nor star appeared,  
And every wave its white head reared  
Above the ship, beside his bed  
An angel stood, and "Fear not" said.  
Such is Thy holy word to me,  
When tossed upon afflictions's sea;  
When floods come in unto my soul,  
And the deep waters o'er me roll,  
With angel voice Thy Word draws near  
And says, "Tis I, why shouldst thou fear?  
Through trouble great My saints must go  
Into their rest, where neither woe  
Nor sin can come; where every tear  
From off the cheek shall disappear,  
Wiped by God's hand." O gentle Dove,  
How much Thy holy law I love!  
My lamp and light  
In the dark night.

When holy Stephen dauntless stood  
Before the Jews, who sought his blood,  
With angel face he looked on high,

And wondering, through the parted sky,  
Saw Jesus risen from His throne  
To claim the martyr as His own.  
Angelic peace that sight bestowed,  
With holy joy his bosom glowed.  
And while the murderous stones they hurled  
His heaven wrapt soul sought yonder world  
Of rest. "My spirit, Saviour, keep,"  
He cried, he kneeled he fell asleep.  
Such be Thy holy Word to me  
In hour of life's extremity!  
Although no more the murdering hand -  
Is raised within our peaceful land -  
The Church has rest, and I may ne'er  
Be called the martyr's crown to wear:  
Yet still, in whatsoever form  
Death comes to me, in midnight storm  
Whelming my bark, or in my nest,  
Gently dismissing me to rest,  
O grant me in Thy Word to see  
A risen Saviour beckoning me.  
No evil then my heart shall fear  
In the dark valley. Thou art near!  
My trembling soul and Thou, my God,  
Alone are there; Thy staff and rod  
Shall comfort me. O gentle Dove,  
How much Thy holy law I love!

My lamp and light

In the dark night.

1838.

---

Source:

<https://sermonindex.net/speakers/robert-murray-m'cheyne/thy-word-is-a-lamp-unto-my-feet-and-a-light-unto-my-path/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**