

## The Word of God

### 1. The Word is critical to our walk with Christ.

Let's look at a few things about what the Word is:

The Word is a light and lamp (Prov 6.23); it cleanses us, keeps us from sin, gives us hope and comfort, quickens us in the way of righteousness, gives us understanding (Ps 119); it makes us wise unto salvation and is profitable (2 Tim 3.15-16); it stands forever (Is 40.8); will never return void (Is 45.23; 55.11); will judge us (John 12.28); is the Word of truth (Eph 1.16; John 17.16-7; 1 Pet 1.23; 2 Cor 6.7; Col 1.15; 2 Tim 2.15; James 1.18); the Word of life (1 John 1.1); the Word of power upholding all things (Heb 1.3); the law of liberty (James 1.25); is not bound (2 Tim 2.9); it is committed to us as the Word of reconciliation (2 Cor 5.19); it is our offensive weapon against the enemy (Eph 6.17); all creation came into existence by it (*and God said* - Gen 1.3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26; Heb 11.3); it testifies of Christ (John 5.39); it endures forever (1 Pet 1.25; Matt 24.35; Mark 13.31 and Luke 21.33); it works effectually in you (1 Thess 2.13); it is our healing and deliverance (Ps 107.20; Matt 8.16); and the Word made flesh is Jesus Himself (John 1.14).

We're to desire it (1 Pet 2.2); meditate on it and observe to do it to make our way prosperous and have good success (Josh 1.8); live by it (Matt 4.4), and the disobedient stumble at it (1 Pet 2.8); God is looking for people who will tremble at it (Is 66.2); in end times people will be killed for it (Rev 6.9); there's a famine of it in the land (Amos 8.11); Jesus said we err not knowing it (Matt 22.29); it was in the beginning (John 1.1), and when Jesus comes back He'll come back with it! (Rev 1.16).

### 2. Satan hates for you to know God's Word.

Satan virtually *deceives the whole world* (Rev 12.9). Because Satan is the *father of lies*, and there is *no truth in him* (John 8.44), he comes against the power of the Word of Truth in your life that works to sanctify you, redeem you, work in you, and seal you to the day of redemption, (Eph 1.16; John 17.16-7; 1 Pet 1.23; 2 Cor 6.7; Col 1.15; 2 Tim 2.15; James 1.18).

Satan's plan is to snatch the Word from you after it is sown, to have the "cares of this world" choke out the Word (Mark 4.13-20); to twist the Word (as in Gen 3.15 to Eve, *hath God said*, and to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane when he took the Word out of context in Matt 4.6); to sow false amongst the real to cause confusion (Matt 13.39); to blind minds (2 Cor 4.4); and He comes as an *angel of light* (2 Cor 11.14) to steal, kill and destroy (John 10.10).

False teachers with false teachings promoting strange doctrines and *another Jesus* than is set forth in the Word of God will *pervert* the right ways of the Lord and the gospel of Christ (Acts 13.10; Gal 1.7). We are not to *believe every spirit, but*

*test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world (1 John 4.1); knowing there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies,... and bring on themselves swift destruction (2 Peter 2.1).*

### **3. The Importance of Knowing the Word**

#### **A. Example of the Bereans**

*Acts 17.10-12 - And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.*

#### **B. The Problem and Our Responsibility**

*...[E]vil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived (2 Tim 3.13), and people will not endure sound doctrine but will have "itching ears" that desire more "teachers" (2 Tim 4.3). Believers are commanded to *hold fast the faithful word as [you] have been taught* (Titus 1.9), to *strive not about words to no profit* (2 Tim 2.14); *not giv[e] heed to ... fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth* (Titus 1.14); *avoid... profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called* (1 Tim 6.20); *refuse profane and old wives' fables* (1 Ti 4.7); *avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law, for they are unprofitable and vain* (Titus 3.9); and mostly to *study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the WORD OF TRUTH* (2 Tim 2.15). In other words, we NEED to know the truth, and the truth shall make you FREE (John 8.32).*