

## What God's Word Can Do For You

### INTRODUCTION :

#### A. Christians are people who love the Lord Jesus the Christ.

1. We are people who have committed our lives to God.
2. Having believed the gospel, we have placed all our trust in Jesus to save us eternally.
3. Thus, we very strongly desire to please Him and to have a strong relationship with Him.
4. We understand that our relationship depends upon our being obedient to Him.
  - a. **John 14:15** -cf- **John 15:14**
  - b. **I John 3: 24- The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. ...**
5. Therefore, we Christians are constantly seeking to find exactly what is God's will.

Read ... **Eph. 5: 6-10**

#### B. If one sincerely seeks to learn how to please God, where does he look ?

1. If one wants to stand approved before God, he must learn to handle God's word.
 

**II Tim. 2: 15- Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.**
2. The Apostle Peter assures us that God has give us EVERYTHING we need to receive eternal life and to live godly on the earth.
 

**II Pet. 1: 2-3** Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; <sup>3</sup> seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.
3. Where does one get this all sufficient knowledge which prepares him to be with God ?
 

**II Timothy 3:16-17** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

  - a. The scriptures train us.
  - b. **There is nothing one needs to know to please God that he cannot find in the bible.**

#### C. From the times of ancient history, great men of faith have reverences God's word..

1. The psalmist described the word of God as :
  - a. As having been **tried** ... **Psa. 18: 30**
  - b. As being **upright** ... **Psa. 33: 4**
  - c. As worthy to be **praised** ... **Psa. 56: 4, 10**
  - d. And as being **sovereign** ... **Psa. 103: 19-22** ( to be praised & obeyed )

2. **Read ... Psa. 119: 11-22**
3. **Read ... Psa. 119: 37-48**

### **TRANSITION :**

Indeed, the word of God is a great and a wonderful thing so let us look into it to see how we can use it in our lives.

## **I. It is only through the revealed word of God that one can have faith in his heart.**

### **A. No one can please God without having faith in Him.**

1. No one can please God who does not believe in Him. ( **Have faith** )  
**Heb. 11: 6-** Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.  
( cf.- **II Thes. 1:8** )
2. Salvation is ONLY by grace through faith. ... **Eph. 2:8-9**

### **B. Thus, in order to be saved, it is essential that one develop faith.**

1. Whether it is read or heard, faith comes only via knowledge of the word of God.  
**Rom. 10:17-** So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
2. This is God's only plan for saving man.
  - a. **Rom. 1: 16-** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
  - b. **I Cor. 1: 21-** For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ( cf.- **Rom. 6: 17** )

### **C. This is why Bro. James urged everyone to receive the word of God.**

1. **James 1:21-** Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.
2. BUT notice, it can only be effective in bringing salvation if :
  - a. It is "received" ( **Not just heard, but received ... accept it.** )
  - b. It is "implanted" ( **Internalize it and live it.** )
  - c. And, It is accompanied by "putting aside" all worldliness. ( **repentance** )

## II. God's word can call people out of the world.

### A. Souls are called out of the world to be saved, not left in it.

1. Christians are a called out people.
  - a. The very word translated "church" means "those called out."
  - b. **Rom. 1:7**- "... to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints:" ( **separated** )
  - c. **Rom. 8:28**- "...those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose."
2. The calling of Christians is accomplished via the words of the gospel. ( **words of God** )
  - a. **II Thes. 2: 14**- It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ( **I Pet. 1: 15** )
  - b. The gospel is a message from God for the purpose of calling people to salvation.
 

**I Cor. 15: 1-3** Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

### B. The Apostles were but repeating the message they received from God.

1. Jesus passed along the message He brought from God.
 

**John 14: 24**- He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.
2. The Holy Spirit brought the message of Jesus to the memory of the Apostles.
  - a. **John 14: 26**- But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.
  - b. **John 16: 13**- But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
3. Thus, the Apostles did not claim to have an original message.
  - a. **I Cor. 11: 23**- For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;
  - b. **Gal. 1: 11- 12** For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. <sup>12</sup> For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.
  - c. **Remember ... I Cor. 15: 3ff**
4. Compare : **Heb. 1:1-2 ; II Pet. 1:21 -cf- I Pet. 1:10-11**

**C. Thus, those things communicated by the Apostles must be received and obeyed.**

1. **I Cor. 14: 37-** If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment.
2. **Eph. 3:4-** By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ..

**III. One cannot be saved apart from the word of God.**

**A. Salvation is communicated by words. ( Not feelings or experiences )**

1. A good example gives credence to the message, but example alone will not save anyone.
  - a. People who see a good example must know why the behavior is so virtuous.
  - b. Bad behavior can discredit the most skillfully delivered message.
    - 1) **II Cor. 6: 3-** giving no cause for offense in anything, so that the ministry will not be discredited,
    - 2) **I Tim. 6: 1-** All who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and our doctrine will not be spoken against.
2. Even after seeing and speaking with an angel, Cornelius needed words to be saved.
 

**Acts 11: 14-** and he will speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household.
3. It's through teaching and studying the scriptures that one develops the faith required to be saved.
 

**II Tim. 3:14-15** You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, <sup>15</sup> and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

  - a. Learn the gospel.
  - b. Become convinced.
  - c. Know the scriptures. ... salvation

**B. God gives people new life via His holy word.**

1. **James 1: 18-** In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.
2. **I Pet. 1: 22-23** Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, <sup>23</sup> for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God. ( Cf. - **I John 1: 1-3** )

**C. Through God's word people are made free from their bondage to sin and to Satan.**

1. It is only in knowing the truth revealed in God's word that freedom is possible.
  - a. **John 8: 32-** and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.
  - b. **John 17: 17-** Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.
2. It's in when faith fosters obedience to the teaching of the gospel that one is freed.
 

**Read ... Rom. 6: 15-18**
3. Once freed from sin and reconciled to God, one is given the ministry of sharing the word of reconciliation with others.
  - a. **II Cor. 5: 18-19** Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,  
<sup>19</sup> namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ( Cf.-**Eph. 6: 10-17** )
  - b. Compare ... **II Tim. 2: 2** It's God's plan for His word to be continually perpetuated.

**IV. One is able to keep his life purified by means of the word of God.**

**A. God's word cleanses and regenerates.**

1. **Eph. 4: 26-** so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
2. **John 15: 3-** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

**B. The word has a sanctifying power.**

1. **I Tim. 4: 4-5** For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; **5** for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.
2. Conformity to it purified one for God's use.
 

**I Pet. 1: 22-** Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,
3. **Compare :** **I Thes. 4: 2-6** and **Psa. 119: 113**

### **CONCLUSION :**

- A. Thus, it is obvious that no one has a relationship with God separate and apart from His revealed word, the bible.**
- B. The Christian's relationship with God is established upon the basis of His word.**
1. Whether spoken or written God reveals Himself in His word.
  2. Those who accept the revelation and place their faith in it are called to be with God.
- C. Therefore, no one can be saved without some knowledge of the bible.**
1. How one learns the gospel is not significant.
  2. His soul depends upon how he responds to it.
  3. Consequently, those who want to be saved seek to know God's will. ( cf.- **Eph. 5: 8,10** )
  4. Those Christians who want to please God study His word, the bible.
- D. The bible provides everything one needs to know to please God.**
1. Learning the scriptures adequately prepares us for every good work. **II Tim. 3:15-17**
  2. In the scriptures one can learn every single thing that pertains to eternal life. **II Pet. 1: 3**
  3. God's word guides and directs men to God. **Psa. 119: 105** ( **our lamp & path** )
  4. God's word will protect us if we take refuge in it. **Prov. 30: 5** -cf- **Matt. 4**
- \* **Obviously, we don't need creeds, confessions or any other writing of man.**
- E. In the last day when Jesus returns to judge the world in righteousness, His word will be the standard by which all men will be judge.**
- John 12: 48-** He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.

\* **THEREFORE : it would be foolish for anyone not to read and study the Bible.**

**INVITATION :** Right now it is this word that is calling you to give your life in service to God.