

WORD WORTH MORE THAN GOLD

The Bible is from God and is what is to be used for all ministries - 2 Tim 3:16-17 - 16 **ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED** and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The only "author" of the Bible is God - 2 Peter 1:20-21 - 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke **from God** as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

The Bible is more than a book, it is a LIVING document - Heb 4:12-13 - 12 For **THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE**. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Jn 1:1)

The Bible is what is used to prepare the Body of Christ to be one in Faith and in relationship with Christ - Eph 4:11-16 - 11 **IT WAS HE WHO GAVE SOME** to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 **THEN** we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Correct usage

The Bible is Spiritual and must be Spiritually taught and understood - 1 Cor 2:13-14 -13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 14 The man without the Spirit **does not** accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and **he cannot** understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Sound doctrine is a must!! - Titus 2:1 - You must teach what is in accord with **SOUND DOCTRINE**.

Example of using the Word soundly - Matt 4:6-7 - 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.(Ps 91:11,12) "' 7 Jesus answered him, "**IT IS ALSO WRITTEN**: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (Deut 6:16)

Without Sound doctrine, teachings become corrupt, distorted and misleading - 1 Tim 6:3-4 - 3 If anyone teaches false doctrines and **does not agree to the SOUND INSTRUCTION** of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, 4 he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions

The Word only works with TOTAL TRUST in God - Prov 3:5-7 - 5 **TRUST IN THE LORD** with all your heart and **lean NOT** on your own understanding; 6 in **all your ways acknowledge him**, and he will make your paths straight. 7 **Do not be wise in your own eyes**; fear the Lord and shun evil.

Church leaders must deal with the Bible correctly - 2 Tim 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and **WHO CORRECTLY HANDLES THE WORD OF TRUTH**.

Teachers of the Word are required to present and explain, never misrepresent, the Word - 2 Cor 4:1-2 - Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. 2 Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by **setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God**.

A requirement of ALL ministers is to hold to SOUND TEACHING - Titus 1:9 He **must hold firmly** to the **trustworthy message as it has been taught**, so that he can encourage others **BY SOUND DOCTRINE** and refute those who oppose it.

Like Jesus, Teachers of the Word are just to present the Word that God gives - John 7:16-18 - 16 Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. 17 If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. 18 **He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself**, but **HE WHO WORKS FOR THE HONOR OF THE ONE WHO SENT HIM IS A MAN OF TRUTH**; there is nothing false about him.

We must NEVER add to the Word - 1 Cor 4:6 Now, brothers, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, "Do not go beyond what is written." Then you will not take pride in one man over against another.

We must receive the Word with the intent to do it in its totality - Rom 6:17-18 - 17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you **WHOLEHEARTEDLY OBEYED** the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. 18 You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

We must pay close attention to what we teach and make sure our lives display it - 1 Tim 4:15-16 - 15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. 16 **WATCH YOUR LIFE AND DOCTRINE CLOSELY.** Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

It is our responsibility to check the message we received - Acts 17:11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

- received the message
- examined the Scriptures every day
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Beware of the False

The False was introduced in the beginning - Gen 3:1-6 - Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "**DID GOD REALLY SAY**, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but **GOD DID SAY**, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 **WHEN THE WOMAN SAW** that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Unfortunately, People want to hear what they desire instead of what God is saying - 2 Tim 4:3-4 - 3 For the time will come when men will not put up with SOUND DOCTRINE. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

God's word may be hard to understand and at times hard to accept, but it is UNACCEPTABLE to change God's word to make it fit your understanding or acceptance - 2 Peter 3:15-16 - 15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. 16 He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which IGNORANT AND UNSTABLE people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

Those who add or take away from the Word are false teachers - 2 John 9-11 - 9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. 11 Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work.

False teachings will give rules that are not based on SOUND Doctrine - 1 Tim 4:1-8 - The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. 4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. 6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

We must be aware of dangerous teachings not from the Word –

Matt 16:12 Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.



Rom 16:17-18 - 17 I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way **that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. KEEP AWAY FROM THEM.** 18 For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.

We must make sure False doctrine is not taught in the Church - 1 Tim 1:3-4 - 3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men **NOT TO TEACH FALSE DOCTRINES** any longer 4 nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work — which is by faith.

Pergamum serves as an example of How God feels of teaching and receiving FALSE doctrine - Rev 2:14-16 - 14

Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. 15 Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. 16 **REPENT** therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

Those that preach false gospels are doomed for Hell - Gal 1:6-9 - 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 ***which is really no gospel at all.*** Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, **let him be eternally condemned!**

Our true Weapon and protection

We are kept from being deceived by using the Bible as the foundation - Eph 5:6-7 - 6 **LET NO ONE DECEIVE YOU WITH empty words,** for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. 7 Therefore do not be partners with them.

Those led by SOUND DOCTRINE will truly understand right and wrong - 1 Tim 1:9-10 - 9 We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, 10 for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers — and for whatever else is contrary to the SOUND DOCTRINE

The Bible provides everything we need for our daily spiritual battles - Eph 6:16-17 - 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can **extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.** 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Faith comes from messages that are from the WORD ONLY It protects us- Rom 10:17 Consequently, **faith comes from hearing the message,** and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

The Word provides the ingredients we need to live saved - Phil 2:12-13 - 12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for **IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN YOU** to will and to act according to HIS GOOD PURPOSE.

Displayed by Jesus, The Word is what we use for ALL of our battles - Matt 4:1-4 - Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "**IT IS WRITTEN: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'**" (Deut 8:3)