

THE NATURE AND POWER OF GOD'S WORD

INTRODUCTION:

A. The source of Scripture:

1. The Bible was written over 1500 years by 40 different penmen.

B. Many ask, "where did they get their information?"

1. It was not by the will of man

II Peter 1:20, 21

20

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2. The Holy Spirit guided or revealed truth:

a. Ephesians 3:1-6

1

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

2

If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

3

How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

4

Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

5

Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

6

That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

b. I Corinthians 2:9-13

9

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. Isa 64:4

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

12

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

3. Therefore, the Scriptures are "God breathed" writings

[II Timothy 3:16,17](#)

16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17

That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

C. We need to cultivate a greater respect for the word of God.

D. Today let's study what James wrote on the importance of God's word and then apply these truths to our lives.

I. THE NATURE OF GOD'S WORD:

A. The word of God is an expression (revelation) of the will of God

[James 1:18](#)

18

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

1. God's will is available to all men.

2. To please God one must obey after believing His will

[Matthew 7:21](#)

21

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

B. God's word is SEED which is able to produce new life - [James 1:18- 21](#) - brought us forth, implanted:

18

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

19

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

20

For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

21

Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

1. K.J.V. - begat, or A.S.V. - brought forth.

2. In the SEED is the power to produce new life

[I Peter 1:22-25](#)

22

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24

For [all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: Isa 40:6,7](#)

25

But [the word of the Lord endureth for ever.](#) And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. Isa 40:8

3. The SEED is the word of God

[Luke 8:11](#)

11

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

C. The word of God is "THE WORD OF TRUTH"

[James 1:18](#)

18

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

1. There is no false advertising in His word.

2. Truth is available

[John 8:30-32](#)

30

As he spake these words, many believed on him.

31

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

32

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

[John 17:1](#)

1

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

3. One learns truth by going to the source of truth - God's Word.

D. God's Word is "THE PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY"

[James 1:25](#)

25

But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

1. God's Word is law because it is the rule (standard) by which to live.

2. It is perfect (complete) because it is sufficient to accomplish it's purpose - SALVATION

[James 1:21](#)

21

Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

3. It is a law of liberty because it frees man from the bondage of sin.

II. THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD:

A. Enables one to see himself as he really is

[James 1:24](#)

24

For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

1. Sees the reality of sin

[Romans 5:6-9](#)

6

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

2. Shows a man the reality of sin in his own life

[Romans 3:23](#)

23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

3. Shows me the deep desire of God to save all men

[II Timothy 2:4](#)

4

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

B. Power to save the soul of man

[James 1:21](#)

21

Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

C. Power to produce a "New Creature"

[James 1:18](#)

18

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

[II Corinthians 5:17](#)

17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1. He has a new relationship with:

a. God - now his Father.

b. Christ - now his advocate, High Priest, brother.

c. Other Christians - now brethren, family.

d. Satan - now his enemy

[I Peter 5:8](#)

8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

D. Power to bless the lives that obey it

[James 1:25](#)

25

But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

1. Blesses with security in Christ

[I John 2:3,4](#)

3

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

2. Blesses with direction

[John 14:6](#)

6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

3. Blesses with purpose

[Ecclesiastes 12:13,14](#)

13

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

14

For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

CONCLUSION:

A. The reception or rejection of the truth lies within the heart and life of the believer:

1. One should be "swift to hear"

[James 1:19](#)

19

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

2. One must "receive" the word

[James 1:22](#)

22

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

3. Word must become "implanted" in the heart

[James 1:21](#)

21

Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

4. Word must be "obeyed"

[James 1:22,23](#)

22

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

23

For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

B. The destiny of man is determined by his relationship to the Word of God and with the God of the Word.