

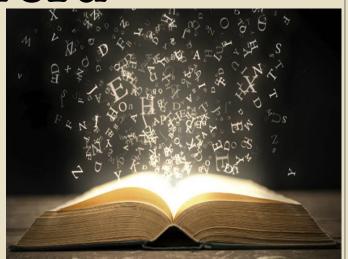
The Word of God

- 3.1 What is the Word of God?
- 3.2 Ways to receive God's Word
- 3.3 Preaching God's Word
 - Who and to Whom
- 3.4 Preaching God's Word
 - Where When and How

3.2 Ways to receive God's Word

Myths are

- >God speaks only to specific people
- >God speaks through anointed ones only
- ➤It is difficult to receive specific Word from God



Symbols of the God's word in scripture

Light: God's word is light to our path; Light to open our wisdom

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light to my path. [Prov 6:23]

Proverbs 6:23

For the commandment is a lamp, and the teaching [of the law] is light, And reproofs (rebukes) for discipline are the way of life

Psalms 19:8

• The precepts of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. It reveals the truth about Jesus which sets us free John 8:31-32

The Truth Will Make You Free

So Jesus was saying to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you abide in My word [continually obeying My teachings and living in accordance with them, then] you are truly My disciples. And you will know the truth [regarding salvation], and the truth will set you free [from the penalty of sin]."

 It also brings guidance and direction into our lives

Jesus Is the Light of the World

John 8:12

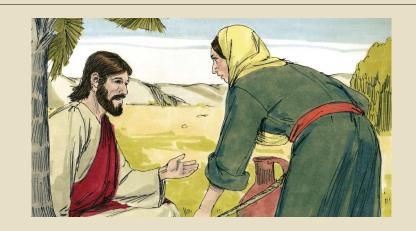
Once more Jesus addressed the crowd. He said, "I am the Light of the world. He who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

Water: Like water cleanses us, God's word cleanses our souls, if we allow it to challenge us. We will change as Holy people that God wants us to be.

Ephesians 5:25-27 (AMP)

Husbands, love your wives [seek the highest good for her and surround her with a caring, unselfish love], just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify the church, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word [of God], so that [in turn] He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy [set apart for God] and blameless.

Jesus spoke to Samaritan woman that the water he can give are living water and she will not get thirsty anymore.



John 4:13-14

Jesus answered her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. But whoever drinks the water that I give him will never be thirsty again. But the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water [satisfying his thirst for God] welling up [continually flowing, bubbling within him] to eternal life."

Seed: Gods word is a seed that brings fruit in our lives. Fruit if spirit as mentioned in Galatians 5:22

• The parable of sower teaches us many lessons. Here the seed represents God's word (Luke 8:11) Parable: Luke 8:4-15

Vs 11"Now [the meaning of] the parable is this: The seed is the word of God [concerning eternal salvation].

Fire & Hammer: It is very strong to burn our hearts to make them pure/holy.

Its like hammer that breaks most stubborn hearts and bring water from it.

Jeremiah 23:29

"Is not My word like fire [that consumes all that cannot endure the test]?" says the Lord, "and like a hammer that breaks the [most stubborn] rock [in pieces]?

Honey: God's word is sweet like honey. It changes all bitterness of our hearts into sweet.

Psamls: 19:7-11

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

oIt brings sweetness of God's joy within our lives

Psamls 119:103

How sweet are **Your words to my taste**, **Sweeter than honey** to my mouth! [Prov 8:11]

- Bible is compilation of 66 books and letters written by more than 40 authors during a period of approximately 1,500 years.
- The original text of the Bible was communicated in just three languages: Hebrew, koine or common Greek, and Aramaic.
 - The Old Testament was written for the most part in Hebrew, with a small percentage in Aramaic.
 - The New Testament was written in Greek.

If the 66 books are considered as precious stones, the thread connecting all those stones to make it chain is JESUS

- "Bible" comes from bíblia in Latin and bíblos in Greek
- Beyond its two main sections (the Old Testament and the New Testament), the Bible contains several more divisions: the Pentateuch, the Historical Books, the Poetry and Wisdom Books, the books of Prophecy, the Gospels, and the Epistles.

- The Canon and Apocrypha
- The word *canon* means "a rule" or "standard for measurement."
- The first full copy of the Bible was completed in the Greek language around A.D. 312. It was called the Codex Vaticanus, as it was kept in the Vatican library. By 405 A.D., Jerome had translated both Old and New Testaments into Latin, which the Catholic church made the official language of the Bible in A.D. 600.

- It wasn't until the 16th century that the entire Bible was translated into English. Currently, bible is available in more than 2400 languages
 - This excludes the versions

For better understanding, bible can be divided into 5 parts

- ✓ Old Testament- Prophecy about Jesus and salvation
- ✓ Gospels- About the arrival of Jesus
- ✓ Acts- Witness to world about HIS arrival
- ✓ Epistles- How to live as per scriptures awaiting Jesus second coming
- ✓ Revelation- Revealing the truth about Christian hope in Jesus

Ways to receive God's word

Through God's creation: God's word is evident from his creation. God always wanted to communicate to his people through creation.

Psalms 19:1-6

Psalmist praises God for his creation

No one get excuse before God during judgement that God didn't revealed himself to them.

Romans 1:18-21

For [God does not overlook sin and] the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who in their wickedness suppress and stifle the truth, because that which is known about God is evident within them [in their inner consciousness], for God made it evident to them. For ever since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through His workmanship [all His creation, the wonderful things that He has made], so that they [who fail to believe and trust in Him] are without excuse and without defense. [Eph 2:10]

Through meditation on scriptures: By meditating upon scriptures every day, we can receive specific word to our life from God

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is **God-breathed** [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable...

so that the man of God may be complete and proficient, outfitted and **thoroughly equipped for every good** work.

Romans 15:4

For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope and overflow with confidence in His promises.

Through Prophecy: God often speaks through his prophets

Many prophets and prophetesses in Bible

Major prophetic books: 3

Minor prophetic books: 12

Other prophets in Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, etc.

2 Peter 1: 19-21

So we have the prophetic word made more certain. You do well to pay [close] attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and light breaks through the gloom and the morning star arises in your hearts. [Num 24:17] But understand this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of or comes from one's own [personal or special] interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Matthew 10:41

He who receives and welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and he who receives a righteous (honorable) man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward.

Through Preaching

1 Corinthians 1:21

For since the world through all its [earthly] wisdom failed to recognize God, God in His wisdom was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached [regarding salvation] to save those who believe [in Christ and welcome Him as Savior].

Romans 10:14-15

14But how will people call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how will they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher (messenger)? 15And how will they preach unless they are commissioned and sent [for that purpose]? Just as it is written and forever remains written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!" [Is 52:7]

Isaiah 52: 7

How beautiful and delightful on the mountains

Are the feet of him who brings good news,

Who announces peace,

Who brings good news of good [things],

Who announces salvation,

Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Through Jesus Himself: By receiving Jesus, we receive Word of God

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the [only] Way [to God] and the [real] Truth and the [real] Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, having spoken to the fathers long ago in [the voices and writings of the prophets in many separate revelations [each of which set forth a portion of the truth], and in many ways, has in these last days spoken [with finality] to us in [the person of One who is by His character and nature] His Son [namely Jesus], whom He appointed heir and lawful owner of all things, through whom also He created the universe [that is, the universe as a space-time-matter continuum].

Through Holy Spirit: He makes the Scriptures come alive to us and helps us apply them to our lives.

As we spend time in the Word, the Holy Spirit – the Spirit of truth guides us and leads us to Jesus who is the Truth (John 14:6).

John 16:12-13a

"I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear [to hear] them now. But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth [full and complete truth]. John 14:25-26

25 "I have told you these things while I am still with you. 26But the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you.

✓ Spirit came to Philip and told him to meet the Eunich from Ethiopia

Acts 8: 25-40

Vs 29 Then the [Holy] Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." 30Philip ran up and heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah, and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

✓ Spirit came to Paul and guided him his route Acts 16:6-8

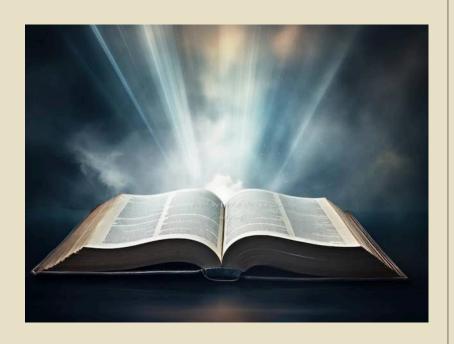
Now they passed through the territory of Phrygia and Galatia, after being forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in [the west coast province of] Asia [Minor]; and after they came to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; so passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas.

Through Angels: Abraham, Moses, Manoha, Daniel, John, Peter, Paul, Philip, List is on.....

Through his voice (slow yet sound): Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Elisha, Samuel, Paul, Peter, List is on.....

Merits of learning God's Word

- To understand God's will
- •To understand God's love John 3:16 (Gospel in nut shell)
- To Focus on eternal things
- To get Clarity on things
- To Discern other words of world
- ■To build Christ like character



What preparation we need to receive it in our lives

- ✓ Obedience, Sincerity, Faith, Determination
- ✓ Prepare ourselves in Spirit, in mind and in body
- ✓ By studying it everyday, confessing it, applying it to our lives and by sharing it.

Next Week: The Word of God

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