

WHAT WILL THE WORD OF GOD DO?

Think for just a moment about the Bible being the ultimate guidebook. In what ways can the Bible guide us today? It can teach us how to handle all of life's worries (Matthew 6:25-34). The Bible teaches us how we might acceptably worship God (John 4:23-24). It teaches us about what is proper regarding marriage, divorce, and remarriage (Matthew 19; Ephesians 5; 1 Corinthians 7). The Bible teaches on the subject of child rearing (Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs). Among other things, it teaches us about authority, our care of widows and orphans, prayer, work ethic, how we should dress, and the list could go on and on. God's word can lift us up, encourage us to keep on keeping on, humble; in fact, I believe, I know, that there is nothing the Bible cannot teach me. In **Psalm 19:7-11**, we can find a list of six specific things that the word of God will do for us.

First of all, the word of God will convert the soul (7). In **Acts 18:8**, we read about the Corinthians who heard the word of God, believed it and were baptized. What was it that they heard and continued to hear for a year-and-a-half (11) that caused them to be converted? — The word of God. When Jesus told the parable of the sower, He said, "The seed is the word of God" (Luke 8:11). It is when the seed (word of God) is planted into the soil (hearts of men) that it produces. The apostle Paul stated, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation" (Romans 1:16). We should never underestimate the power of the gospel to convert souls.

The word of God will also make wise the simple (7). The simple are those who have one end in view. They are concerned about their soul, and earnestly inquires, "What must I do to be saved?" In **2 Timothy 3:14-15**, Paul penned these words, "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have

known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." Only the word of God can make "the simple" wise for their souls and eternity. Humble, sincere, teachable minds receive the word and are made wise unto salvation.

Next, the word of God will make the heart rejoice (8). What great joy there should be in our hearts in knowing that God's word is right! His word shows man what he is to do and how to please Him, contributing to the happiness of the upright. When God's word is written in our hearts and minds, it lays a foundation for everlasting joy, by restoring us to our right mind. It only makes sense that the word that converts our souls and makes us wise unto salvation would make us happy. Think about those on Pentecost who were glad (Acts 2:41-47), the eunuch who "went on his way rejoicing" (Acts 8:39), and the Philippian jailer who "rejoiced" (Acts 16:34) all after they had been converted by God's word. Christians should always be rejoicing (1 Thessalonians 5:16).

The word of God will also enlighten the eyes (8). It shows men what they should do and what they should avoid. It is by God's commandments that we see the exceeding sinfulness of sin, and the necessity of redemption. It brings us into view and knowledge of our sin and misery, and directs us in the way we should go. Do you think Jesus' eyes were enlightened (opened) in the wilderness by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11)? Jesus, knowing the commandments of the Lord to be pure, was able to recognize when He was being tempted and when Satan was misinterpreting the Scriptures. This allowed Jesus to respond properly concerning God's word. As we grow as Christians and study more and more, our eyes will be enlightened, and it will be easier to flee from sin.

A fifth thing we can note about the word of God is that it will endure forever (9). The fear that prevents us from offending God, that causes us to reverence Him and is the

beginning of wisdom, must be carried all through life. No soul is safe for a moment without it. It prevents departure from God, and keeps that clean which God has purified. The word of God in every age and in every age to come has told man how he must live. God's word has, is and always will play some part, whether on earth or in heaven (see 1 Peter 1:22-25).

The final thing the word of God will do, if kept, is provide us with a great reward (11). Why is this so? — Because the Lord's judgments are "true and righteous!" This is the great promise that God has given to mankind. It should bring joy to our hearts when we read and think about the reward God has promised His faithful children. Those who obey God's word and endure to the end will receive the crown of life (Revelation 2:10). The apostle Paul had great hope. He had confidence that the Lord would deliver as promised (2 Timothy 4:8). This is the hope and confidence we need in our lives.

From time to time we all need to be reminded of what God's word can do for us. It is the only word that can get us to heaven. Won't you believe it, and won't you obey it!

Andy Heavin from *Lee & Walnut Bulletin*

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."

Psalm 19:7-11

ANNIVERSARY

Bo and Tammy Marcum, 06-02.

ILL

Sunday: Chris Edwards (PM); Allen Scott.

Wednesday: Janice Carter.

Ted Thrasher will have neck surgery on June 2 at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. Allen Scott continues to recuperate at home.

Those battling cancer: David Cole, Ledgia Campbell, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers, as well as: Millie Robertson, Allen Scott, and Ralph Franklin.

HOME BOUND

Bob Adams resides at Room D-4 of the Johnson County Nursing Center in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

The Brown's were on vacation last week in Texas. Wilba Hopkins was in Springfield, MO over the weekend. Trent Thrasher was in Belle, MO over the weekend. The Nelson's were in Newton, KS on Sunday evening.

POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held this Sunday, June 1 following our AM worship. All are encouraged to come and enjoy the good food and great company!

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING

Our regularly scheduled Men's Business Meeting will be held next Sunday, June 8 following our AM worship. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 50; Sunday PM, 33; Wednesday PM, 32.

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." **Psalm 119:130**

Those To Serve

June 1, 2008

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Thomas

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Joel Nelson
SONG LEADER..... Trent Thrasher
OPENING PRAYER John Cody Carter
PRESIDE.....Steve Brown
ASSIST..... John Dodson
ASSIST.....John James
CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER George Thomas
CLOSING PRAYER.....Jared Nelson
LORD'S SUPPER.....Steve Brown

WEDNESDAY 4th

SONG LEADER..... Jeff Nemechek
INVITATION Joel Nelson

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

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