

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

THE WORKS OF THE BIBLE (Part 4)

SCRIPTURE READING:

- “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe” (1 Thess 2:13).
- “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Heb 4:12).

INTRODUCTION:

- A. ... The Bible! That’s the Book. The Book indeed.
The Book of books; On which who looks,
As he should do, aright, Shall never need
Wish for a better light To guide him in the night. – George Herbert
- B. “God the Father is the giver of the Holy Scripture; God the Son is the theme of the Holy Scripture; and God the Spirit is the author, authenticator and interpreter of Holy Scripture” – J. I. Packer
- C. “Make it the first morning business of your life to understand some part of the Bible clearly and make it your daily business to obey it in all that you do understand” – John Ruskin
- D. “The Word of God is a light to guide you, a counsellor to counsel you, a comforter to comfort you, a staff to support you, a sword to defend you, and a physician to cure you. The Word is a mine to enrich you, a robe to clothe you and a crown to crown you” – Thomas Brooks.

For this study, we will examine three ways on how the Bible works in Believers:

I. The Word of God Makes us Rejoice

- “I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil” (Psalm 119:162).
- “**Rejoice**” – Be glad, display joy, great delight, cheerful

Believers Should Rejoice in the Word of God because:

A. Our Names are written in the Book of Life

- “Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:20).
- “And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women who laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life” (Phil 4:3).

B. We have a wonderful relationship with God

- “And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement” (Rom 5:11).

C. Nothing can separate us from the Love of God (Rom 8:35-39).

D. Trials and Tribulations are working for our Good.

- “And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope” (Rom 5:3-4).

- “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Rom 8:28).

E. “Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer” (Rom 12:12).

F. Jesus is coming again – The Second Coming of Christ

- “Therefore, be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh” (Matt 24:44).
- “He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus” (Rev 22:20).

Rejoice in the Lord always; and again, I say rejoice
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Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice.
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice.

- “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again, I say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4).

II. The Word of God Gives Us Spiritual Understanding

- “Let my cry come near before thee, O Lord: give me understanding according to thy word” (Ps 119:169).
- “**Understanding**” – to discern, pay close attention to, to act wisely, consider carefully

Believers should seek understanding from the Word of God because:

A. Spiritual Understanding helps us to live life better - applying the Word of God to our lives.

- “But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” (Matt 4:4).
- “For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life” (Prov 6:23).

B. Spiritual Understanding helps us to do God's Will - to obey Him and not sin

- “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Blessed art thou, O Lord: teach me thy statutes” (Ps 119:9-12).
- “The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide” (Ps 37:31).

C. Spiritual Understanding helps us to guard against False Teachers and Doctrines

- “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1).
- “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves” (Matt 7:15).
- “But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction” (2 Pet 2:1).

D. Spiritual Understanding “is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (2 Tim 3:16).

E. Spiritual Understanding is to “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path” (Prov 3:5-6).

F. Spiritual Understanding gives us encouragement.

- For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus” (Rom 15:4-5).

G. Spiritual Understanding helps us to know God better

- “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom 10:17).
- “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious” (1 Pet 2:2-3).
- “The Bible is the Book of my life. It is the Book I live with, the Book I live by, the Book I want to die by” – N.T. Wright
- “Fill your mind with God's Word and you will have no room for Satan's lies” – Anonymous

○ **LET THE BIBLE GO THROUGH YOU**

Gipsy Smith told of a man who said he has received no inspiration from the Bible although he had “gone through it several times.” “Let it **go through you once**” replied Smith, “Then you will tell a different story! – Ministry 127

III. The Word of God Sanctifies Us

- “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17).
- “For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer” (1 Tim 4:5).
- “**Sanctify**” – to make Holy, consecrate, to dedicate, to set apart, to be separated.

Believers are Sanctified by the Word of God because:

A. The Word of God makes known God’s Power for Holy living in the lives of Believers. We are to practice Holy living to the Glory of God. Believers are **in** the world but not **of** the world. Therefore, we must not live like the world.

B. Sanctification comes through the Word of God. Salvation leads to being set apart for God. – we are cleaned through the Word of God.

- “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you” (John 15:3).
- “God’s Truth has been given to us in three editions”: His Word is Truth (John 17:17); His Son is Truth (John 14:6); and His Spirit is Truth (1 John 5:6)” – all these are needed for the Believer to experience True Sanctification – Warren Wiersbe

C. Sanctification results in a changed lifestyle for the Believer

- The story is told of a young girl who accepted Christ as her Savior and applied for membership in a local church. "Were you a sinner before you received the Lord Jesus into your Life?" inquired an old deacon. "Yes, sir," she replied. "Well, are you still a sinner?" "To tell you the truth, I feel I'm a greater sinner than ever." "Then what real change have you experienced?" "I don't quite know how to explain it," she said, "except I used to be a sinner running after sin, but now that I am saved. I'm a sinner running from sin!" she was received into the fellowship of the church, and she proved by her consistent life that she was truly converted - Our Daily Bread.
- I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be. But I thank God I **am** not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, "By the grace of God I am what I am - John Newton.

STUDY QUESTIONS:

1. Do you read the Bible Daily?
2. Are you prepared for the Rapture?

3. Do you trust God and His Word at all times? During good times and bad times in your life?
4. Do you find it to be difficult to live for God in this “crooked and perverse” world (Phil 2:15)? Why or why not?
5. Based on your recent Bible reading, what changes do you think God wants you to make in your attitude, words, or actions?
6. Do you have a favorite Bible verse and/or passage of scripture that inspires you? How does it inspire you?

MEMORY VERSE:

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever” (1 Pet 1:23).

CONCLUSION:

- A. The Bible makes us rejoice, gives us spiritual understanding, and sanctifies us.
- B. Thank God for the Bible – It is God’s gift to us. It came from God, and it points us to God. The Bible is the true, authoritative, infallible, and inerrant Word of God.
- C. “Let the study of the Bible become central in your life – not just so you will know it, but that you will obey it” – Billy Graham
- D. “I am a BIBLE – Bigot. I follow it in all things, both great and small” – John Wesley.
- E. **A-B-C of Salvation**
 - **Admit That You Are A Sinner.** *“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom 3:23)*
 - **Believe On Christ.** *“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved” (Acts 16:31).*
 - **Confess Your Faith.** *“If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation” (Rom 10:9-10).*

**From the Teaching Ministry of:
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).