

## The Word of God in You

Today we celebrate the last Day of Unleavened Bread. We have been blessed with renewing our covenant with God on Passover and have been learning and growing in His ways in our journey at overcoming sin in our lives. Did anyone else have a day or two of dodging gobs of leaven being hurled by Satan this past week? I suspect I am not alone. The attacks will never cease but may become less frequent the more we grow in the wisdom and knowledge of God's Word. The devil will never quit but he may not care to waste the resources on someone anchored on The Rock.

I was thinking back on this past week's Feast of Unleavened Bread observance that the simplicity really came to focus on purging the sin or "leaven" from our lives. Since sin begins with temptation and temptation begins in our minds, we can find some great and succinct ammunition for fighting the influences of the enemy in scripture.

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-22-** "Rejoice always! (Be joyful in all things) Pray unceasingly (maintain constant communication with God through prayer). Give thanks in everything (be grateful in all things), for this *is the* will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit (do not block God's influence through

His Spirit). Despise not prophecies (do not dislike the things we are being foretold). Prove all things (this is a big one that Sunday worshippers miss. Sift what we hear through the Word of God). Hold fast *to that which* is good (do not let go of the truth you have found).

Abstain from every form of wickedness (separate yourself from the things that are not from God).” If we are in constant communication with God, the devil cannot get a word in edgewise. Sounds easy right? We all know it isn’t.

If we truly desire to work on the “new man,” we have the entire Word of God to absorb. We will just look at a few scriptures to emphasize some key points to guide us in keeping the leaven of sin out of our lives.

From Genesis to Revelation, all of the Word of God was given by God to mankind through His Holy Spirit to the prophets and through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17-** “All Scripture *is* God-breathed and *is* profitable for doctrine, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; So that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.”

**Hebrews 1:1-3-** “God, Who spoke to the fathers at different times in the past and in many ways by the prophets, has spoken to us in these last days by *His* Son, Whom He has appointed heir of all things, by Whom also He made the ages; Who, being *the* brightness of *His* glory and *the* exact image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His own power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at *the* right hand of the Majesty on high;”

We know why we are told to live by every word of it (**Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4, Deuteronomy 8:3**). The treacheries of the adversary are no match for God’s Word.

**Hebrews 4:12-** “For the Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of both soul and spirit, *and* of both *the* joints and *the* marrow, and *is* able to discern *the* thoughts and intents of *the* heart.”

Putting God’s Word into our hearts and minds is fortifying ourselves against Satan and his influences. **It will strengthen us in overcoming sin.**

**Psalms 119:11-** “Your word I have laid up in my heart, so that I might not sin against You.” When the battles in the mind or temptations come our way, the more

of God's Word we know and have in our hearts, the more of a fortress we can become against these temptations. God's Word is truth.

**Psalm 119:160-** "Your word is true from the beginning, and every one of Your righteous ordinances endures forever."

**John 8:31-32-** "Therefore, Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, "If you continue in My word, you are truly My disciples. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free."

God's Word is a lamp unto our feet. It brings direction to life.

**Psalm 119:105-** "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." We will no longer walk in darkness.

**Psalm 119:130-** "The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." This Psalm is certainly fitting for me, the simple...you need not be a Bible scholar but have a humble and contrite spirit with a hunger and thirst for God's righteousness.

As we grow in God's Word, wisdom and understanding will increase.

**Proverbs 2:1-5-** “My son, if you will receive my words and treasure up my commandments within you, So that you incline your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding; Yea, if you cry after knowledge *and* lift up your voice for understanding; If you seek her as silver and search *for* her as for hidden treasures, Then you shall understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.”

**Matthew 7:24-** “Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine and practices them, I will compare him to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock;”  
His Word is life.

**Psalms 119:9-** “With what shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.” Listen and live what God’s Word says.

**Proverbs 4:20-22-** “My son, attend to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart, For they *are* **life** to those who find them, and health to all their flesh.”

God’s Word is eternal and fulfills His will.

**Matthew 24:35-** “The heaven and the earth shall pass away, but My words shall never pass away.”

**Isaiah 40:8-** “The grass withers, the flower fades; but the Word of our God shall stand forever.”

**Isaiah 55:11-** “So shall My Word be which goes out of My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall certainly do what I sent it to do.”

God’s Word is our protection, hope, and our peace.

**Psalms 18:30-** “As for God, His way is perfect; the Word of the LORD is tried. He is a shield to all those who take refuge in Him,”

**Proverbs 30:5-6-** “Every word of God *is* pure; He *is* a shield to those who put their trust in Him.” Do not add to His words, lest He correct you and you be found a liar.”

**2 Samuel 22:31-** “As *for* God, His way *is* perfect. The word of the LORD *is* tried. He is a shield to all those who seek refuge in Him,”

**Psalms 119:114-** “You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word.”

**Romans 15:4-6-** “For all the things that were written before were written for our instruction, so that through patient endurance and encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God of patience and encouragement grant you to be likeminded toward one another according to Christ Jesus, So that with one accord and one mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

**Philippians 4:7-** “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.”

You may get tired of hearing me say this, but if you truly want to know God and have the One-on-one relationship He desires, *you must know His Word*. It is *that* personal. We may read scripture and not understand it, but it does go into our hearts and minds. Remember Isaiah 55:11? When the time comes for us to share something as a witness for Christ, He will remind us of the words we have hidden in our hearts.

**Luke 12:11-12-** “But when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how or what you should reply in defense, or what you should say; For the Holy Spirit shall teach you in that same hour what needs to be said.” This you may count on.

Reading it for ourselves and a solid daily prayer life is paramount to any relationship with our Father in Heaven. We share His Word at our Sabbath from various sources, but the only source is God's Word. We can listen to other believers' interpretations and messages but if you want to experience the personal closeness with God, no conduit is necessary. Jesus Christ died and paid that price that we may access to the very throne of God!

**Ephesians 2:18-** "For through Him we both have *direct* access by one Spirit to the Father."

While you are hearing these words this morning, they are only offered to share direction and encourage you all to seek Him for yourselves. Develop the relationship with Him He so desires.

**Amos 8:11-** "Behold, the days come," says the Lord GOD, "that I will send a *famine* in the land; not a *famine* of bread nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD."

If we ever lose the internet or You Tube, we will have our very own scriptural permanent library deep in our hearts. While there is nothing wrong with listening to "other" sources during the week, it is not the same thing as talking directly to



God yourself! Just because we listen to something does not mean He knows us. It is far better to go to the Supreme Source. Remember the story of Lazarus and the rich man in Luke 16:19-29? From the grave, the rich man cried out to Abraham rather than to God. He did not know God.

The ready answer we are all expected to have must come from within.

**1 Peter 3:15-** “But sanctify the Lord God in your own hearts, and always be prepared to give an answer to anyone who asks you the reason for the hope *that is* in you, with meekness and reverence;”

While it is vital to read and study the Word of God, it is by far more crucial to do what He says in it. We can read it, write it, and recite it, but if we are not doing it and living it, we are giving God lip service.

**James 1: 21-25-** “Therefore, having rid yourselves of all filthiness and all *the* abounding of wickedness around you, then in meekness accept for yourselves the implanted Word, which is able to save your lives. Then be doers of *the* Word, and not only hearers, deceiving your own selves Because if anyone is a hearer of *the* Word and not a doer, this one is like a man considering his natural face in a mirror Who, after looking at himself, went away and immediately forgot what he was like. But the one who has looked into *the* perfect law of freedom, and has

continued in *it*, this one himself has not become a forgetful hearer, but is a doer of *the* work. This one shall be blessed in his actions.”

**Luke 11:28-** “And He said, “Yes, rather, blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.”

As we consume the written word of God, we are being conjoined with the True Word of God, Jesus Christ.

**John 1:1-4-** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and not even one thing that was created came into being without Him. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”

He now lives in us.

**Colossians 3:11-** “Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian *nor* Scythian, slave *nor* free; but Christ *is* all things, and in all.”

Walking with Christ Jesus is to know The One Who sent Him. By this we know that we know Him.

**1 John 2:3-5-** “And by this *standard* we know that we know Him: if we keep His commandments. The one who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. On the other hand, *if* anyone is keeping His Word, truly in this one the love of God is being perfected. By this *means* we know that we are in Him.”

How precious is it to have our Savior Jesus Christ and His Word living in us?! This is just a brief look at some of the scriptures to help in our growth and journey towards God’s Kingdom. They barely scratch the surface for all the applications we find in God’s Word. There is no better map or set of instructions that can be or will ever be found apart from the Word of God. I think Angie said it last week that Bible stands for “**B**asic **I**nstructions **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth.” This may not match up with Wikipedia but it sure seems to fit. Onward to Pentecost!

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