

Intro.

- A. No passage in N. T. Scripture exalts the word of God more than **2 Tim. 3:14-17**
1. In an age when the Bible is being discredited & “*book, chapter & verse*” preaching is ridiculed, we need be reminded of what these verses teach.
 2. Bro. Hugo McCord has described our text for years as *the north star* of Bible authority.
- B. Please study with me the affirmations Paul gave (by inspiration) concerning the word of God.

Discuss.**I. THE WORD OF GOD IS SIMPLE.**

- A. *From your childhood...* Timothy had known the holy scriptures.
1. **2 Cor. 11:3**
 2. **Psa. 119:130**
 3. Please remember, God \geq the author of confusion, (c. **2 Pet. 3:16**)
- B. How to be saved & go to heaven is revealed in plain, unmistakable language.
1. Hear
 2. Believe
 3. Repent
 4. confess
 5. be baptized
 6. be faithful unto death


II. THE WORD OF GOD IS KNOWABLE.

- A.*You have known the Holy Scriptures...*
1. Some advocate: “*No one can be certain that he knows the truth.*”
 2. Usually, this is used to open the door called **tolerance**.
 3. ? – How can we obey **Rom. 6:17** or **16:17** if we cannot know?
- B. Factually, there are many passages that affirm that we **can** know the truth!!!
1. **Jn. 8:32** You shall know the truth, & the truth shall make you free.
 2. Notice **2 Pet. 2:20-21**

III. THE WORD OF GOD IS HOLY.

- A. *You have know the Holy Scriptures.*
1. The Bible is **Holy, Sacred**, because it originates from God!
 - a. **Gal. 1:11-12** *But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not according to man. For I neither received it of man, nor was I taught it, but it came thru the revelation of Jesus Christ.*
 - b. Look in **2 Pet. 2:20-21** & listen to Peter’s word’s very carefully.
 2. We should never trifle with them.
- B. The proclamation of God’s Holy Word is not “**Bibliolatry**” (i.e., make the Bible an idol).
- C. It is well said: *We are not asked just to believe the Bible, but to believe the one whom the Bible reveals.*
1. **2 Thes. 2:13** - *But we are bound to give thanks always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you to salvation thru sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth:*
 3. **Jn. 14:15** - *If you love me, keep my commandments.*

IV. THE WORD OF GOD HAS BEEN WRITTEN.

- A. What Timothy had been taught was the Holy **SCRIPTURES**.
1. **Scripture** is f/ the Gk., **gramma** which means *a writing of description or notes for learning.* **Eph. 3:3f**
 2. The message of the scriptures is regularly attributed to God as His very words, c. **Rom. 9:17**
- B. God’s written word is no less powerful than His spoken word, **1 Cor. 14:37** -
- If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.* **(2 Tm. 2:15)**
- C. We are encouraged to read & study the Scriptures, **Col. 4:16** (a circular letter for Laodicea);
- Blessing is provided those who *read & hear* the word God, **Rev. 1:3**, gaining God’s approval, 

V. THE WORD OF GOD IS POWERFUL.

- A. The scriptures are *able to make you wise for salvation*. (c. **Rom. 1:16; Heb. 4:12**)
- B. There are some in the church that are questioning the need to keep teaching the scriptures.
 - 1. Nashville Tennessean (in the 1990's), an article said: ***Stay with the Basics or Change With Society***
 - a. *We must present our youth with lessons that are relevant & applicable to this age in which we live. When young people are out in a parked car, the stories of Moses & Joseph do not do a lot of good. Certainly a knowledge of the Bible is important, but Christian living is our present need*
 - b. *There is a need for youthful, upbeat worship music.....Too many churches resist contemporary music & are driving young people away.* (Philip Morrison at the Nashville Jubilee.)
 - c. *What is important to you? Is it purity? Doctrinal correctness? Faith? ...Jesus said they are not as important as love of God & love of one's neighbor.*
 - d. *Right now church of Christ are pretty much an irrelevance in the world. We are about like a flea on the back of a dog.....My children will not stay with the church I grew up in; they will not be a part of an irrelevance. I was probably past of the last generation that would ever accept indoctrination faith.*

Concl.

- A. God's word is just as relevant as it has ever been.
 - 1. Jesus Christ is *the same yesterday, today, forever* – **Heb. 13:8**
 - 2. **vs. 9** warns that we should *not be carried away with various & strange doctrines*
- B. We should exalt God's holy word for the same reasons Paul did
 - 1. The Bible is relatively simple.
 - 2. It is knowable --- we can understand it (**Eph. 3:4** - (...*I wrote by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ*)
Jn. 7:17; Eph 5:17 *Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*
 - 3. It is holy, being f/ Heaven.
 - 4. It has been written & recorded by inspiration so that we can know God's will for us today.
 - 5. The Bible is still God's power & able to make us wise to God's plan of salvation.
- C. Have you been listening to the word of God, & believed it & followed the plan God recorded for the purpose of saving you from your sins & enrolling your name in the Book of Life for a reservation in heaven?