

Intro.

- A. No passage in N. T. Scripture exalts the word of God more than **2 Tim. 3:14-17**
  - 1. Our text has been referred to as **the polar star** of Bible authority.
  - 2. Last week we looked at **vs 14-15** and noted 5 reasons *Why We Should Exalt the Scriptures*.
    - a. Because they are **simple**, ...*from your childhood*
    - b. Because the Bible is **knowable**, ...*You have known the Holy Scriptures*
    - c. Because It is **Holy**, *You have know the Holy Scriptures.*
    - d. Sense the Word of God is **Scripture** (*i.e., it has been written*)
    - e. Because It is **powerful** enough to *make you wise for salvation.*
- B. In this study we want to see what affect the exalted Scripture can have in our daily lives

Discuss.**I. THE WORD OF GOD CAN SAVE OUR SOUL.**

- A. *It is able to make us wise to salvation.*
- B. Gospel is God's exclusive power to effect salvation.
  - 1. Cornelius (**Ac. 11:14**) = good man, but needed knowledge of God's word. (c. **Js. 1:21**)
  - 2. God's word continues to save & cleanse (continuous action) **1 Jn. 3:9**
    - a. c. **Lk. 8:11f** --*The seed = the word of God... wayside = ones who hear, & devil takes word out of their hearts, lest they should believe (i.e., the word) & be saved.*
    - b. **Psa. 119:11** - *Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.*
- B. As a consequence.....
  - 1. We need not expect a direct operation of the Holy Spirit.
  - 2. The Spirit's word convicts:
    - a. **Jn. 16:7-8** (the Holy Spirit) *will convict the world of sin, & righteousness, & of Judgment.*
    - b. **Jn. 16:13** *the Sp. of Truth guided the apostles into all truth...*

**II. WE WILL TREAT THE BIBLE BETTER THAN ANY OTHER BOOK --IT IS INSPIRED!**

- A. *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.*
  - 1. It is filled w/ breath of God from which it receives it's life/power (c. **Gen. 2:7; Heb. 4:12; Rom. 1:16**)
  - 2. Over 1300 times the prophets attributed their message as being *God speaking*. (c. **2 Pet. 1:20f**)
  - 3. Bible is **verbally inspired** (every word was written with God making certain that it stated precisely His message to man.
- B. The Bible is truly from God, & so it is true!
  - 1. **1 Cor. 2:13**
  - 2. One can study & discover it's reliability *scientifically, historically, geographically, logistically, psychologically, etc.!*

**III. THE WORD OF GOD IS PROFITABLE (BENEFICIAL).**

- A. That means the Bible is *advantageous, serviceable, helpful...able to produce benefits or gain.*
- B. Specifically, there is a quartet of realms in which the Bible is profitable:
  - 1. *for doctrine (teaching)* -- about salvation, the church, worship, daily living, relationships, etc.
  - 2. *for reproof* -- It convicts us whenever we are wrong, exposing error, & its ultimate end.
  - 3. *for correction* -- It straightens us out when we veer off the pathway of right. (c. **Ac. 8:18-24**)
  - 4. *for instruction in righteousness* -- teaches us God's right way in all Christian activity.

#### **IV. THE WORD OF GOD MAKES US COMPLETE (MATURE).**

A. *that the man of God may be complete...*

1. **Jn. 14:26** – *the Holy Spirit...taught the apostles all things*, & these things = recorded for us so that nothing is left out that we need!
  2. What language would Paul use if in Harlem, or in talking to nuclear scientist, or to “Baby Boomers”?
- B. Since basic needs of mankind have not changed, we should not .....
1. look for any subjective experiences (exciting emotional sensations or mystical phenomenon)
  2. not recognize any (so-called) subsequent revelation (e.g., The Book of Mormon)
  3. not any miraculous demonstrations, (c. **Jn. 20:30f; Lk. 16:31; 1 Cor. 13**)
  4. nor should we expect or anticipate an direct operations of the Holy Spirit

#### Concl.

- A. God’s word is just as relevant as it has ever been.
- B. Paul exalted God’s holy word for good reasons and so should we!
1. The Bible is relatively simple.
  2. It is knowable --- we can understand it **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. When we exalt the Bible...
1. It **Saves** us
  2. It is seen as **Inspired**
  3. It is **Beneficial**
  4. It makes us **Complete**
- D. 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?