

The Dynamic Word of God

Psalms 119:162 - *I rejoice at Your word as one who finds great treasure.*

Job 23:12 - *... I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.*

Psalms 119:103 - *“How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth”.*

I want to continue the message we started last week, about the importance of the Word of God in our lives. How's your relationship with the Word of God? Do you engage with it? Is it a treasure to you? Do you seek to grow in the Word? Do you have a full revelation of the power contained within the pages of your bible?

Opening Text: Acts 20:32 - *“So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the **word** of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

This passage is part of the last sermon Paul preached to the leaders of the church of Ephesus. Paul had started that church but now was time to embrace the next assignment God gave him. So, these were his last words to them before his departure. He was never going to see them again (Acts 20:38).

- **For 3 years Paul taught them all the Word of God he knew**

Acts 20:20-21 - *how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, ²¹ testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*

V.27 - *For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.*

V.31 - *Therefore watch and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.*

Paul communicated the Word in every possible way: he ‘*proclaimed*’, ‘*taught*’, ‘*testified*’, ‘*declared*’ and ‘*warned*’ night and day, for three years! Paul made sure to leave with them the biggest deposit of the Word that he could. He obviously placed great importance in the Word of God.

- **Paul decided to leave the young church of Ephesus**

One may ask, *but how could he leave all those baby Christians behind?* Well, clearly Paul believed in the power of the Word of God to sustain them. That is

why he left so much of it with them. He believed that if they stayed focused on the Word of God they had learned, they would stand and would continue to grow.

Well, what about the ‘savage wolves’ that Paul said would come after his departure (29-30)? Paul believed the power of the Word to keep the church. The Word was going to be their protection from deception. That is why he is telling them insistently to focus on the Word. If they stayed in the Word, they would succeed.

Paul had taught them but now they were going to have to be diligent to study the Word themselves.

The responsibility for our personal growth can’t rest solely on the ministry of a preacher. Thank God for preachers and teachers, we all need them. However, ultimately, we are responsible for our own spiritual growth: we need to individually engage with the Word of God. We need to study the Bible for ourselves.

- **Paul commended them to God and to His Word**

Acts 20:32 - *“So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the **word** of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

Paul knew He could trust the ability of the Word. ‘*It is able to build you up*’, he said.

Able – in the Greek, *Dynameno*. The Word of God is literally **dynamic**. It comes loaded with God’s supernatural, dynamic, ability to build us up.

Hebrews 4:12a AMPC (Amplified Bible) – *For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power making it active, operative, energizing, and effective; it is sharper than any two-edged sword,*

The *Word of His grace* is dynamic and full of power to build you up.

Jeremiah 24:6 - *For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; I will build them and not pull them down, and I will plant them and not pluck them up.*

What materials does God use to build you and I? – His Word. His Word is able to build us up - to edify, to construct, to create, to grow, to reinforce. When we engage with the Word by reading it, we are adding a permanent, indestructible substance to our faith. Come what may, we will not be moved. The lack of the

Word leads to the opposite outcome:

Hosea 4:6 – *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.*

- **Savage wolves**

‘*Savage wolves*’ are mentioned here in this passage to remind us of how the devil hates the Word and how he will try to distort it or to take it away from our lives.

While Paul ministered in Ephesus, establishing that church, the enemy put up such a fight against the Word:

Acts 19:20 says that *‘the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed’*.

V.23 *“about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way”*

About the time that the Word prevailed, persecution also came.

Jesus said in the “parable of the sower” that when the Word is sown like a seed, the enemy comes immediately to choke the word. One of the ways he does that is through persecution:

Mark 4:17b - ... *“when tribulation or persecution arises for the word’s sake”*

Paul said that establishing the church in Ephesus was a tough fight:

1 Corinthians 15:32a – ... *“in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus”*

Savage wolves, beasts... the enemy is simply against the Word.

What ‘beasts’ fight against your time in the Word? What ‘ravenous wolves’ come? That is why Paul wrote to those same Ephesians, a few years later, about spiritual warfare.

Ephesians 6:17 - *And take the helmet of salvation, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;***

Without the Word, we are helpless in this warfare. The dynamic power of the Word of God is what makes us dangerous and victorious against the enemy. When the Word is in us, then we can do what Jesus did in the desert, when He was tempted.

When we say, **“It is written”**, the enemy knows ...

- That we are not ignorant – We cannot be destroyed because of lack of knowledge.
- That when we declare the Word, we are declaring something that has already been settled in the highest of instances: in heaven.

Psalms 119: 89 - *Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.*

It is a decree that cannot be revoked, a sentence without appeal, a statement of facts that cannot be changed or challenged.

Psalms 138:2b - *You have magnified Your word above all Your name.*

His Word is dynamic, irrevocable, and unstoppable.

In **John 4:46-53** we read the story of a nobleman whose son had died. The man requested the presence of Jesus so He would come and heal the son. Jesus didn't go but spoke this Word: '*go your way, your son lives*'. Verse 50 says that the man believed the Word of Jesus and went. The exact hour Jesus spoke the Word, the son was healed.

His Word is as good as His presence. The same happened to Syrophenician woman whose daughter was possessed (Mk 7:24-29) and also with the Centurion in Mt. 8. That is how powerful God's Word is – as powerful as His presence.

However, the power of God's Word can also stay dormant if you don't open your Bible to

- read,
- meditate,
- speak,
- hear, and
- to do it.

Conclusion

God wants you to have a relationship with His Word because He wants to build you up. His word is able, dynamic, full of power. Don't think of His Word as you would of someone else's writings. No, His Word is Spirit and life, it is on a different level (We will continue this series in two weeks).

Identify what is robbing you of that fellowship with Gods' Word and make the decision today that you are going to get into your Bible and unleash its power over your life.

