

## POWER OF GOD'S WORD

### Int.

1. Aim: To show how God's word has been powerful and remains that way today!
2. **Heb. 4:12** For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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.
  - a. Quick = alive, active [ it is not dead but continues for all generations] It is a living Word because it is backed by a living God and a living Christ.
  - b. Powerful = the word of God is like its author "living and powerful"
3. Men in past days underestimated that power of God's word! They wanted something else or additional.
  - a. **II Kings 5 - NAAMAN** - he wanted a miracle instead of the message of God brought to him through a prophet
  - b. **Lk. 16:22-31 - RICH MAN** wanted Lazarus to go back and preach to his brothers
  - c. **I Cor. 1:22-24 - SOME JEWS** wanted a sign - not God's word
4. Men are still up to the same tricks today. They do not believe in the power of God's word.
  - a. Some want a direct operation of the Holy Spirit in salvation
  - b. Some imagine that the Holy Spirit leads and guides us in some direct manner apart from the word of God.
  - c. Many believe we need additional knowledge for they do not feel that the Bible is sufficient today.
5. Let us be reminded of the POWER OF GOD'S WORD -
  - (1) Creation - past (2) Termination - future (3) Salvation - present

## Discussion

### I. **POWER OF GOD'S WORD IN CREATION**

- A. II Pet 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:
1. God created the world by His Word
  2. Heb. 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.
    - a. Framed = to fit - render complete - put in order
    - b. He created the world by the Power of His word - a command of God
    - c. Things seen.....appear
      - (1) Made out of nothing
      - (2) Matter was not eternal
      - (3) God is eternal and He created all things
- B. Gen. 1:1 **In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**
1. "And God said" = his word - 9 times in Gen. 1
  2. That which God said came to pass
  3. God spoke things into existence with the words, "Let there be . . ."
  4. He spake and it was done
  5. He expressed His will and it was done
  6. The "Word" takes on new meaning when we come to the New Testament:
    - a. John 1:3 says Christ was the Word.
    - b. Heb. 1:2 **"By Whom also He made the worlds."**
    - c. Heb. 11:3 Framed by the Word. Christ was the agent of creation - Col.1:1:16

C. Ps. 33:6-9 **By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was [done]; he commanded, and it stood fast.**

1. God's word is so powerful it could produce the earth, heavenly bodies and the laws of the universe!

2. Job. 26:13 NKJV **"By his spirit he adorned the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent."** "By His Spirit the Heavens were beautiful"  
MKJV

D. Creation - 2 Pet. 3:5 teaches us that all things were created by the WORD of God !

## **II. POWER OF GOD'S WORD TO TERMINATE THE CREATED UNIVERSE**

A. II Pet. 3:7 **But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.**

1. "By the same word" = the word of God which brought them into existence

2. They shall pass away - v. 10

3. V. 6 the world in Noah's day perished - 2 Pet 3:6 **Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:**

a. The world Perished --- The idea is not extinction, but ruin.

b. The thought of annihilation is not inherent within this word.

B. This earth shall be dissolved or burned up - 2 Pet. 3:10-11 **But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 [Seeing] then [that] all these things shall be dissolved, what manner [of persons] ought ye to be in [all] holy conversation and godliness,**

1. Notice the words used to describe the end of this universe:

- a. Heavens shall pass away with a great noise
- b. Elements shall melt with fervent heat
- c. Earth also be burned
- d. Works that are in the earth will be burned up

2. All of these things shall be dissolved — destroyed

C. God's word keeps the heavens and earth reserved - stored up - for destruction by fire - II Pet. 3:7

1. Just as God's Word brought the world into existence, and caused it to perish by the flood .....
2. So he has, by that same infallible and unchangeable word, proclaimed that the world would be destroyed by fire.
3. The power in God's word will someday destroy this earth !
4. It behooves all of us to be ready - to not put so much interest in worldly things which are going to be destroyed.

### **III. THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD IN SALVATION**

#### A. We are saved by the word of God

1. 1 Pet. 1:22-25 **Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, [see that ye] love one another with a pure heart fervently: 23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 24 For all flesh [is] as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.**
2. Born again by God's word
3. Gospel - Rom. 1:16
  - a. It is the power of God
  - b. It is the powerful means appointed by God for the salvation of all who believe and embrace it.
  - c. It is the effective means of God for saving men

#### B. Power in God's word to produce faith which is necessary to salvation

1. Rom. 10:17
2. John 20:30-31 **And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.**
3. The study of God's word produces faith in our hearts

C. Power in God's word to lead men to repent

1. Lk. 24:46-47 **And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**
2. Preaching of gospel brings about repentance

D. Power in God's word to cause men to be baptized for remission of their sins

1. Acts 2:40 **And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.**
2. Acts 2:38 **Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**
3. Three thousand souls gladly received this word and were baptized that day

E. Power of God's word to bring us to a new life in Christ

1. 1 Pet. 1:22-23 purified ---- **Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, [see that ye] love one another with a pure heart fervently: 23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.**
2. We are cleansed from our sins
3. II Cor. 5:17 **Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**
4. Gal. 3:27

F. The word of God furnished us with all things that we need

1. II Tim. 3:16-17
2. Power of God for all ages

## **CONCLUSION**

1. God's word has been, remains so, and will always be POWERFUL.
2. God's word = the bible is not a dead letter - Heb. 4:12
3. God's word is powerful:
  - a. In creation
  - b. In termination
  - c. In Salvation
4. God's word will save the souls of men, but men must receive the word! Jas. 1:21

**Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.**

- a. Engrafted word - implanted = ASV ---- it is rooted, grown strong
  - b. Able to save your souls
  - c. The word is powerful - this power is released when received into our heart that is honest and good.
  - d. The word of God saves because it contains the necessary information which one must have in order to do that which is pleasing to God.
  - e. Our soul is that part of us made in the image of God.
5. God's Word can save your soul if you will obey !!!

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**Sources**

The Key of Knowledge - Thomas H. Holland p. 85

Various commentaries on the different verses and my study notes.

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