THE POWER OF GOD'S HOLY WORD

Text: Heb. 4:9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. 10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged 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.13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Intro:

Almost two thirds of evangelical "born again" Christians do not believe that the Bible is the literal Word of God. They seem to see the Bible as some sort of broad guideline to be generally, not specifically, followed. This allows them to adjust, His Word for their specific purpose. One denomination said recently that when the Bible

conflicts with our stated doctrine, we follow our doctrine. Do you believe that the Bible is the literal Word of God?

There are many passages from the BIBLE [GOD's HOLY WORD] that address this issue better than I can, so I will mostly let His word speak for itself.

Jesus speaking in Matt. 15: 7 warns us that this situation was happening even in His day and such people He called hypocrites. Verse 7: Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

On another occasion when Jesus was preaching to His disciples.

JOH 6:60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?

Jno. 6:66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?

68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

The very foundation of all that we believe must be.

A. God's word is truth, everything else then is false.

David: PSA 25:10 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

PSA 96:12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice13 Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

PSA 31:5 Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.6 I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD.

Soloman: Pro. 30: 3 I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.

4 Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Paul writing to the Young Preacher Timothy in the New Testement:II Tim.3: 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ

Jesus shall suffer persecution.13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

~"Preach the Word"

4:1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Jno. 5:36 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

I. **What Power can the truth of HIS HOLY WORD have in our lives?**

A. To change our lives completely.

PSA 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

B. Jno. 8:31 ~The Truth Will Make You Free

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, <u>then are ye my disciples indeed;32</u> And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

ROM 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

C. The power of GOD'S HOLY WORD will supply all of our needs.

2PE 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3 According as <u>his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness,</u> through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

D. By God's word we partake of His devine promise. Verse 4 <u>Whereby</u> are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

E. His Holy word supplies us with the tools we need to prepare our lives to partake of His promises. Verse 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

F. Verse 8 Shows us the result of believing God's word, trusting His promise. Following His plan: For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

G. Verse 9 Warns what will Happen if we do not follow His Holy word. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

II.Use God's " Word" to prepare for eternity.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

II Tim. 2:15

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. [Trusting the words of someone else is listening to falsehood.]

I Pet. 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.13 And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?

14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

PSA 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

12 Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

Conclusion: Eventually everyone will be affected by GOD'S HOLY WORD whether we believe the Bible is literally His word or not.

Paul: ROM 1:15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

~Unbelief and Its Consequences

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

If not His words, whose words will judge us?

JOH 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

1JO 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Jesus says:

Jno. 12:48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.50 And I know <u>that his commandment is life everlasting:</u> whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak

Rev. 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.