The Power Of God's Word

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INTRODUCTION

- The older said that she wanted to read one scripture to me, which was from Revelation chapter 21 and verse 4.
- But to my surprise, she said, Well, it's obviously obvious that we just see the Bible differently.

1 It Is Written

Matthew 4:1–11; 2 Timothy 4:2–4

- Indeed, it is a sad fact that there are many who have their minds made up and can isolate scriptures.
- Even when Jesus was tempted, we find him answering, It is written. It is written. It is written. Three times.
- You see, we need to be able to have the Bible in our hearts.
- Preach the Word, be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.

2 Handle Aright the Word of God

2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Corinthians 14:33; Galatians 1:6–8

- Truth is that the Bible has often been used as false proof of error. It was the devil who quoted Scripture.
- Give diligence to show yourself approved unto God. A workman needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of God.
- Do not isolate a verse and use it against the word of God. And in fact, really, God's word is consistent with itself.
- You may take a verse out of its context and you may misapply it. And if you misapply it and you teach their error, you shall be accursed.

3 Man and Animal Are Not Alike at Death

Ecclesiastes 3:19–21; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Matthew 22:23–32

- There are common errors that can be answered by that next verse.
- In verse 21, who knows the spirit of the sons of men which goes upward, and the spirit of the animal which goes down to the earth.
- The dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it. Man's spirit separates from the body. This is what death is.
- God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. How could he be God of the living, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob if they were not conscious or existing?

4 No Prophecy of Any Private Interpretation

2 Peter 1:20–21; 1 Corinthians 2:11–13; Ephesians 3:3–5

- Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation.
- For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
- The word of God, revealed by the Holy Spirit, was revealed so that we could understand.
- God revealed the word by the miracle of the Holy Spirit. It wasn't the word of men who gave their own private explanation.

5 Whoever Calls on the Name of the Lord

Romans 10:13–17; Luke 6:46; Acts 22:16

- You can read the Bible through, and you'll not one time, not one time, find any alien sinner being told by an inspired man of God, just say the sinner's prayer.
- How then shall they call on him in whom they've not believed? Wait a minute. There's more involved than just saying words.
- Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord. He had been praying for three days, but now to arise and obey.

6 Not Faith Only, but Faith That Obeys

Acts 16:30–33; Romans 6:3–4; James 2:24

- It's very popularly taught, all you have to do really is just believe.
- Spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.
- Immediately he and all his family were baptized. Where'd he learn baptism?
- It isn't just the mental faith only that saves, but it's the kind of faith that obeys.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **How are you handling and responding to the Word of God? Do you really trust it? Or do you have a way of taking an isolated verse here or there and trying to proof text your way that pleases you rather than pleases God?**

MY NOTES