

## THE WORD ON THE WORD MADE FLESH

### I. [2 Timothy 3:16-17](#) [Psalm 12:6](#) [Isaiah 55:8-11](#) [John 1:1-5 & 9-14](#)

A. [2 Timothy 3:16-17](#) (NIV) says: **16** *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.* [Psalm 12:6](#) (ESV) echoes: **6** *The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.*

B. So has 2020 brought you enough turmoil yet? A worldwide pandemic; government imposed quarantines; economic recession; the brutal murder of George Floyd; nationwide protests with rioting and looting. Everything called normal's turned upside down! As John Wesley would say, "*How is it with your soul?*"

C. Has any of this caused you anxiety or fear? Has it impacted your relationships, your plans, your health, your bank account, your regular routines? Has any of this impacted your faith, your conscience, your perspective, your attitudes or motivations, or your heart of hearts? Again: "*How is it with your soul?*"

D. If you spend most of your time listening to government leaders, health officials, social media, or cable news, the result may be unhealthy amounts of frustration, confusion, anger, fear, and hopelessness. Such things cause people to hoard hand sanitizer, buy guns, and hide in bunkers--you know--all those things Jesus taught us to do! If you're walking in the midst of these bleak days without the Word of God, you're walking in the darkest of the darkness. [Psalm 119:105](#) reminds us: "*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*" How well lit is your path these days?

E. [Isaiah 55:8-11](#) (ESV) is more pertinent than anything you've been hearing on the news or on Facebook, Twitter, or the Post Office: **God declares: 8** *For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the LORD. 9* *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. 10* *For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11* *so shall My Word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (And God never walks back any of His words nor ever prints a retraction!)*

F. While seniors in high school, we visited a church in Kirkersville. The young preacher that morning warned us not to make our Bibles some sort of trophy or sacred relic but instead to devour it and live by it. Otherwise it's a worthless idol or a mere good luck charm, just an ornament to collect dust. To prove his point he dropkicked the Bible off the stage! That preacher became our pastor that day! :-)

G. Let me ask: Are you afraid in this season of crisis? *Does not the Word of God have something to say to you?!* Are you feeling lonely or isolated? *Does not the Word of God have something to say to you?!* Are you hurting financially? *Does not the Word of God have something to say to you?!* Do you feel like you're being played or lied to or deceived by the government or media? *Does not the Word of God have something to say*

**to you?!** Do you believe your loaded guns, your well-stocked pantry, or your warehouse full of toilet paper will save you? The Word of God points to Someone far better...

**H. Jesus has many names: *The Messiah, The Christ, The Righteous One; Emmanuel--God with us; Master, Savior, and Lord*, to name a few... But He is also *The Word Made Flesh*. The Bible I commend to you does not come without Him! NO! All 66 books are like 66 spotlights shining brightly on Him who is your only Hope!**

**I. Listen to John 1:1-5 & 9-14 (ESV) *1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. (Who are we talking about here?!) 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... (How well lit is your path these days?!) V9 The true Light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. (Have received Him?!) 12 But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.***

**J. It is this Jesus, *The Word Made Flesh*, put forth by God's written Word, that I commend to you this day. If you are in Christ, you're in a no-lose situation: You not only have Hope in this life but eternal Hope. You not only will experience His nearness now--*in good times and bad*--you will bask in His joyful presence forevermore! Not only have you been given reason to live in the here and now, you no longer need fear death--for as Paul said, "*To live is Christ and to die is Gain!*" In Christ there is true Peace! In Christ your sins are forgiven! In Christ, all that separated you from God is removed! In Christ you've been freed from your bondage to sin and your death-march towards hell! In Christ you are already citizens of heaven! I urge you do this if you haven't: Turn to Jesus, *The Word Made Flesh*. Turn to Him now...**

\* Close with a Song...

## **Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff**

### **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)**

**16** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **17** so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

### **Psalms 12:6 (ESV)**

**6** The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

### **Isaiah 55:8-11 (ESV)**

**8** For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the LORD. **9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. **10** For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, **11** so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

### **Quote by Albert Baird Cummins**

"The empire of Caesar is gone; the legions of Rome are smoldering in the dust; the avalanches of Napoleon hurled upon Europe have melted away, the prince of the pharaohs is fallen; the pyramids they raised to be their tombs are sinking every day in the desert sands; Tyre is a rock for bleaching fisherman's nets; Sidon has scarcely left a wreck behind; but the Word of God still survives: All things that threatened to extinguish it have only aided it; and it proves every day how transient is the noblest monument that men can build, how enduring is the least word that God has spoken."

- Albert Baird Cummins (1850-1926) was American lawyer and politician. He was the 18th Governor of Iowa elected to three consecutive terms and U.S. Senator for Iowa serving for 18 years.

### **John 1:1-5 & 9-14 (ESV)**

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. **5** The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... **9** The true Light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. **11** He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. **12** But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. **14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### **Video Clips & Important Articles**

**The Word Became Flesh - John Piper**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCDDxiEo6\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCDDxiEo6_k)

**"Word Made Flesh" - Justin Rizzo**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQRViRfBxQ0>

**Jesus Is/The Spoken Word - Clayton Jennings**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kLvWZ-DG6s>

**The Word Became Flesh - John MacArthur (Whole Sermon)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUb6vLZcMNo>

## **Bonus Stuff**

### **Hebrews 4:12 (NASB)**

**12** For the Word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

### **2 Timothy 3:10-17 (NIV)**

**10** You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, **11** persecutions, sufferings--what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. **12** In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, **13** while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. **14** But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, **15** and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. **16** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **17** so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

### **2 Timothy 4:1-5 (NIV)**

**1** In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of His appearing and His kingdom, I give you this charge: **2** Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction. **3** For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. **4** They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. **5** But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

### **1 Peter 1:22-25 (NIV)**

**22** Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. **23** For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. **24** For, "All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, **25** but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

## **The Word of God - The Common Book of Prayer**

“Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them; that, by patience and comfort of Thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou has given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever, Amen.”

### **The Word of God - The Westminster Confession**

"Under the name of Holy Scripture, or the Word of God written, are now contained all the books of the Old and New Testament, which are these: etc... All which are given by inspiration of God, to be the rule of faith and life. The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for His own glory, man's salvation, faith, and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture; unto which nothing at any time is to be added whether by new revelations of the Spirit or traditions of men."

- Westminster Confession, Chapter 1, section VI, 1646.

### **This Book:**

**An unknown writer wrote what was formerly found in the introductory pages of Gideon Bibles:** This Book is the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding; its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. Follow its precepts and it will lead you to Calvary, to the empty tomb, to a resurrected life in Christ; yes, to glory itself, for eternity.

### **Quote by Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones**

"We all therefore have to face this ultimate and final question: Do we accept the Bible as the Word of God, as the sole authority in all matters of faith and practice, or do we not? Is the whole of my thinking governed by Scripture, or do I come with my reason and pick and choose out of Scripture and sit in judgment upon it, putting myself and modern knowledge forward as the ultimate standard and authority? The issue is crystal clear. Do I accept Scripture as a revelation from God, or do I trust to speculation, human knowledge, human learning, human understanding and human reasons. Or, putting it still more simply, do I pin my faith to, and subject all my thinking to, what I read in the Bible? Or do I defer to modern knowledge, to modern learning, to what people think today, to what we know at this present time which was not known in the past? It is inevitable that we occupy one or the other of those two positions."

### **Quote by Salmon P. Chase**

"There came a time in my life when I doubted the divinity of the Scriptures, and I resolved as a lawyer and a judge I would try the Book as I would try anything in the courtroom, taking evidence for and against. It was a long, serious and profound study and using the same principles of evidence in this religious matter as I always do in secular matters, I have come to the decision that the Bible is a supernatural Book, that it has come from God, and that the only safety for the human race is to follow its teachings."

- Salmon Portland Chase (1808-1873) was a U.S. politician and jurist who served as the sixth Chief Justice of the United States. He also served as the 23rd Governor of Ohio, represented Ohio in the United States Senate, and served as the 25th United States Secretary of the Treasury.

### **Quote by John Wesley**

"I want to know one thing, the way to heaven, how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book! Oh, give me that book! At any price, give me the Book of God! I have it; here is knowledge enough for me."

### **Quote by Charles Colson**

"The Bible--banned, burned, beloved. More widely read, more frequently attacked than any other book in history. Generations of intellectuals have attempted to discredit it, dictators of every age have outlawed it and executed those who read it. Yet soldiers carry it into battle believing it more powerful than their weapons. Fragments of it smuggled into solitary prison cells have transformed ruthless killers into gentle saints."

### **Quote by Albert Baird Cummins**

"The empire of Caesar is gone; the legions of Rome are smoldering in the dust; the avalanches of Napoleon hurled upon Europe have melted away, the prince of the pharaohs is fallen; the pyramids they raised to be their tombs are sinking every day in the desert sands; Tyre is a rock for bleaching fisherman's nets; Sidon has scarcely left a wreck behind; but the Word of God still survives: All things that threatened to extinguish it have only aided it; and it proves every day how transient is the noblest monument that men can build, how enduring is the least word that God has spoken"

- Albert Baird Cummins (1850-1926) was American lawyer and politician. He was the 18th Governor of Iowa elected to three consecutive terms and U.S. Senator for Iowa serving for 18 years.

### **Quote by John Wesley**

"I now propose short, clear, and strong arguments prove the divine inspiration of the holy Scriptures. The Bible must be the invention either (1) of good men or angels, (2) of bad men or devils, or (3) of God. It could not be the invention of good men or angels; they neither would nor could make a book, and tell lies all the time they were writing it, saying, *"Thus says the Lord,"* when it was their own invention. It could not be the invention of bad men or devils; for they would not make a book which commands all duty, forbids all sin, and condemns their souls to hell to all eternity. Therefore, I draw this conclusion, that the Bible must be given by divine inspiration."

### **Quote by John Flavel**

"The Scriptures teach us the best way of living, the noblest way of suffering, and the most comfortable way of dying"

- John Flavel (1630-1691) was an English Presbyterian clergyman, puritan, and author.

### **Quote from Augustine**

"Let us therefore yield ourselves and bow to the authority of the Holy Scriptures, which can neither err nor deceive."

### **Quote by Jerome**

"Ignorance of the Bible is ignorance of Jesus."

### **Martin Luther - Studying the Bible Like Gathering Apples**

"I study my Bible like I gather apples. First, I shake the whole tree that the ripest may fall. Then I shake each limb, and when I have shaken each limb, I shake each branch and every twig. Then I look under every leaf. I search the Bible as a whole like shaking the whole tree. Then I shake every limb--study book after book. Then I shake every branch, giving attention to the chapters. Then I shake every twig, or a careful study of the paragraphs and sentences and words and their meanings."

### **Quote by George Whitefield**

"I began to read the Holy Scriptures upon my knees, laying aside all other books, and praying over, if possible, every line and word. This proved meat indeed and drink indeed to my soul. I daily received fresh life, light and power from above."

### **Quote by George Müller**

"I saw that the most important thing I had to do was to give myself to the reading of the Word of God, and to meditation on it.... What is the food of the inner man? Not prayer, but the Word of God; and....not the simple reading of the Word of God, so that it only passes through our minds, just as water runs through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering over it, and applying it to our hearts."

### **Phillip Brooks on the Bible**

"The Bible is like a telescope. If a man looks through his telescope he sees worlds beyond; but if he looks at his telescope, he does not see anything but that. The Bible is a thing to be looked through to see that which is beyond; but most people only look at it and so they see only the dead letter."

### **Quote by Arcturus Z. Conrad**

"This book out-lives, out-loves, out-fits, out-lasts, out-reaches, out-runs, and out-ranks all books. This book is faith producing. It is hope awakening. It is death destroying, and those who embrace it find forgiveness of sin."

### **Quote by Martin Luther**

"You may as well quit reading and hearing the Word of God, and give it to the devil, if you do not desire to live according to it."

**Quote from Francis Chan**

“Don't fall into the trap of studying the Bible without doing what it says.”

**Hymn Lyrics by John Newton**

Precious Bible! What a treasure  
Does the Word of God afford?  
All I want for life or pleasure,  
Food and medicine, shield and sword:  
Let the world account me poor,  
Having this I need no more.