

The Practicality of Redemption (6)  
The Bible

Introduction

- A. Success, in the Christian life as in any other endeavor in life, is directly related to the understanding and practice of the truth.
- B. One of greatest wonders of all time is that God has revealed Himself to us. And, beyond all expectation, He has caused His revelation to be written into an inspired and authoritative book!
- C. One of the main characteristics of what it means to be a sinner is to believe that we can, independently of God, define right and wrong, and direct the course of our own life. This sinful error must be abandoned – or we will inevitably fail in our Christian life.

I. The Description of the Word of God.

- A. The Word of God is inspired.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.  
II Timothy 3:16

Comment: Inspiration means the Bible has been supernaturally produced and is completely trustworthy. It is our most valuable treasure.

- B. The Word of God is our final authority.

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of man, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. I Thessalonians 2:13

Comment: By final authority we mean – basis for certainty and assurance. The Scripture transcends all human authority. We must learn to respond to God through the Bible. When we do – God can work in us.

- C. The Word of God is Truth.

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. John 17:17

Comment: What possession can be greater than truth? Science and medicine are demonstrations of such value. How much greater is the value of spiritual truth – the knowledge of God – of His love and grace – of our creation and fall – of redemption – of the new birth and how to live for God – of heaven and hell – and of faith, love, and hope?

- D. The Word of God is Trustworthy.

And being fully persuaded that, what he (God) had promised, he (God) was able to perform. Romans 4:21

Comment: God stands behind His Word. The strength of the Scripture is rooted in the power and faithfulness of God Himself.

E. The Word of God is living and powerful.

For the word of God is quick (living) 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 (critic) of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Comment: The Scripture is more than ink and paper – it is God's instrument.

II. The Promises Related to the Word of God.

A. The Word of God produces spiritual life.

Holding forth the word of life, that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain neither laboured in vain. Philippians 2:16

Comment: God brings conviction and the new birth through His Word. This is why we are told to speak the Word to others.

B. The Word of God is transforming.

Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth. John 17:17

Comment: As we choose to respond to God – through His Word – in honesty and faith, the door is opened to the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The result is spiritual transformation.

C. The Word of God is a weapon and a defensive armor.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth . . . and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians. 6:14,17

Comment: As armor and weapons are only effective when used – so the Word of God must be put into practice. We are soldiers and must fight.

III. The Exhortations Related to the Bible.

A. The Word of God must be internalized.

As newborn babes,  desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. I Peter 2:2

B. The Word of God must be mixed with faith.

Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them, but  the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. Hebrews 4:1,2

C. The Word of God must be obeyed in love.

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