

**"THE WORDS OF THE LORD ARE PURE WORDS, LIKE SILVER TRIED IN
A FURNACE OF EARTH, PURIFIED SEVEN TIMES.
YOU SHALL KEEP THEM, O LORD, YOU SHALL PRESERVE THEM FROM
THIS GENERATION FOREVER." (PSALM 12: 6 & 7)**

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THE WORD OF GOD!

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1)

"Every Word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar." (Proverbs 30:5&6)

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." (Matthew 24:35)

"The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. You shall keep them, O Lord, You shall preserve them from this generation forever." (Psalm 12:6&7)

"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him – the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." (John 12:48)

Dear Saints, I feel compelled to write to you and encourage you on the subject of God's word and man's response to that word. It is a message about Life and about Death – about Heaven and about Hell. It is a message that applies directly to every single human being that is currently drawing breath on the planet earth. It is the TRUTH!

When it comes to God's relationship with man, there is nothing more important than God's word and man's response to that word. Nothing! In fact, God holds His word above His name. In Psalm 138, verse 2, it is written:

"For You have magnified Your word above all Your name."

In Isaiah 66 verse 2, our God speaks in the "first person" and says:

"On this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word."

In Matthew Chapter 4, verse 4, as Jesus was being tempted by Satan, He quoted His Father's word as recorded in Deuteronomy 8:3:

“It is written, ‘man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”

Man's response to God's word will not only determine his quality of life here on earth, but more importantly, it will determine his eternal destination. That's not just my opinion; rather, it is a statement of fact, as outlined in great detail, in the “legal document” that we refer to as the Holy Bible. God has spoken to man clearly outlining the Commandments, precepts and judgments of His covenant agreement with man. He has also spelled out in very specific detail what man can expect from Him, when man sets his heart to keep the covenant agreement; as well as what man can expect when he chooses to ignore, set aside or just plain discount God's word as if it were nothing more than just another religious book written by man, expressing man's opinion.

It has been my own personal experience that when I entered into a covenant with God concerning His word that my life changed, and changed dramatically. I was born into a family of devoted Christians; made a confession of faith and was baptized at the age of eleven; but it was not until I reached my mid forties that I was spiritually awakened. During the process of Father's wooing and drawing me, my mind would continually turn toward the realm of the Spirit and away from the things of the world. This wooing and drawing of God (John 6:44) was occurring in the market place, in my office, at home and during social gatherings. I was not seeking God, but He was seeking me!

Finally, it all came to a head early one morning while I was on a business trip in East Tennessee. I was alone, sitting in a condominium, sipping a cup of fresh coffee. I was high up on a mountain with an unobstructed view of the front range of the Great Smokey Mountains. There, alone in the quiet of the early morning hour, I made a free will choice and entered into a covenant agreement with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. I highly recommend that all true disciples consider doing as I did – you will never regret having done so.

I picked up a Bible from a shelf there in the room and without opening it, I spoke these, or similar, words forcefully and audibly:

“Father, from this moment on, if I ever open this book again to read the words that it contains, I will accept this book for what it says of Itself. I choose to accept this word as Your word. I choose to accept this word as Truth, regardless of whether or not I understand it, whether or not I agree with it; and regardless of what any man says to the contrary --- I will stand on this word from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 down to the last jot and tittle! Regardless of what I think, and regardless of my own personal experience that would seem to contradict Your word --- nevertheless I will, by Your grace, stand on it until the day that I die.”

From the moment that I entered into covenant with God in relation to His word, my life turned 180 degrees. I went from rarely reading God's word, because I could not understand it, and found it boring, to being addicted to it. I could not wait to rise up before dawn and immerse myself into what was for me --- the Word of Life. As I did, I began to move from the intellectual realm to the realm of revelation. This process of transformation is ongoing, and will be so, until we depart this life. I thank

God, that for well over twenty years my hunger and thirst for His word has not decreased, but rather continues to increase. Today, I boldly declare:

**“Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: That You may be justified in Your words, and may overcome when You are judged.”
(Romans 3:4)**

The longer that we serve our King and literally eat His flesh (His word – John 6:53-57), under the tutorship of the Holy Spirit, the more revelation we receive; and the more convinced we are that man cannot live life as Father desires that we live it, except by “every word” that proceeds from the mouth of God. To think otherwise is to accept, as truth, the words of Lucifer --- “You will not surely die.” (Genesis 3:4)

God’s people have a very long history of neglecting, altering, and outright rebelling against the word of God. Our record of rebellion is clearly outlined in God’s word; it begins in Genesis and ends in Revelation. At present, we are adding a post-script to the history of man’s relationship with God. Sadly, our rebellion will cause the rebellion of our forefathers to pale in comparison, if for no other reason than the fact that we have been so blessed and have had so much access to God’s word, one can only wonder how severe God’s response will be toward our shameful behavior

“And that servant who knew his master’s will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.” (Jesus’ own words – Luke 12:47&48)

I am overwhelmed by how scripturally illiterate God’s people are today. Even worse, many who have heard God’s word have chosen not to believe it; and by their words and actions call God a liar! They have chosen to follow the dictates of their own heart (Jeremiah 23:17); their lord is “self,” or their pastor, their denomination or sect, their favorite teacher. I am fully persuaded that the overwhelming majority of God’s people today are clinging to the very first lie that was uttered to man on this earth: **“You will not surely die!”** (Genesis 3:4). So many Christians, well-intentioned Christians, refer to Christ as their Lord, when in fact, He is not their Lord, at least not in His view

**“Why do you call Me “Lord, Lord,” and not do the things which I say?
(Luke 6:46) (emphasis added)**

Adam and Eve found out who was telling the truth; they found out how serious God was about His word. Obedience to God’s word reproduces Life --- disobedience reproduces death; even a child can understand that precept.

Dear reader, let me pause here and make one thing clear. The message that you are reading applies to me as well as to you. I do not count myself as one who has attained or is perfected (Philippians 3:12-14) in “the way.” I do not view myself as an elitist and I daily ask Father to protect me from all forms of deception (Matthew 24:4-13), and from my own affections --- my own personality (2 Corinthians 6:11). One of my greatest fears is that I would be deceived or that religious pride would overtake me. I thank God that He continually reminds me of how vulnerable I am in these

perilous days. And so are you dear reader – and so are you. Several years ago, I heard the following words that I believe were spoken to me by the Spirit of God; I find them to be true:

“The higher you go, the less you will know; the less you know, the freer you will be; the freer you are, the more child-like you will become; the more child-like you are, the nearer you are to Me.”

And Jesus said:

“Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 18:3)

If there is one thing that I am absolutely certain of at this point in my journey toward the homeland, it is this; that in relation to the fullness – the wholeness of “Yahweh” – I know virtually nothing! Nothing! The greater the revelation of God that we receive, the greater the revelation of just how vile we are in relation to “pure Holiness.” Not until we begin to receive this revelation can we fully appreciate “Grace” and begin to walk humbly before Him and work out our own salvation with “fear and trembling.” (Philippians 2:12)

“But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.” (Isaiah 66:2)

Man’s failure to “believe God,” and instead, walk according to the dictates of his own heart, will be his ultimate undoing. It has been so from that day in the garden until now; and it will be so until that day when God separates from Himself all who did not believe Him. Oh God, have mercy on us all!

“... when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power . . .” (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9) (emphasis added)

Dear Saints, I cannot overemphasize the importance of God’s word – all of His word, from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21. Our only hope for living life as Father desires that we live it here on earth, and then to enter into His presence and live with Him eternally, depends totally on our response to His word. Our God is a covenant keeping God. He establishes the covenant through His word and invites us to join with Him as parties to that covenant. He has sworn to never break His covenant with us – but – we can break covenant with Him. When we do, and fail to repent for our wicked behavior, we lose our right to claim the benefits of His covenant agreement. Please listen . . .

“But to the wicked God says: ‘What right have you to declare My statutes, or take My covenant in your mouth, seeing you hate instruction and cast My words behind you?’” (Psalm 50:16&17)

When professing believers in Jesus Christ are not fed the Word of God – or when they fail to receive it as Holy Truth and act upon it – they become spiritually malnourished – they have no

reproducing “Life” within themselves. They may be religious, charitable, sweet-natured and sincere; but “God’s word” would indicate that they worship and serve Him in vain. Listen to His own words:

“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” (Matthew 15:8&9)

“Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

“Everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: And the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was it’s fall.” (Matthew 7:21, 26&27) (emphasis added)

I could fill several pages with scripture that clearly tells us that if we ignore God’s word, we are promised – guaranteed – at best, trouble, hurt and suffering; and at worst spiritual death. All preachers, teachers, denominations, sects, prophets, etc., that present any doctrine, commandment, precept, or judgment that contradicts God’s word in its fullness is cursed. Lest you think that I am unduly harsh, please listen to the Apostle Paul:

“But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.” (Galatians 1:8&9)

Today, what we so loosely refer to as the church, is in a terrible mess. When one holds God’s word up as a mirror and looks at the reflection of the modern day church, all you can do is cry out – “My God, My God, have mercy on us!” We have “Maligned” God’s word. We have “blasphemed” (shown irreverence toward) God’s word. We have “cherry picked” the parts of His covenant that meet our selfish, covetous and idolatrous desires. We, daily, choose to ignore God’s demands as outlined in His word, and then wonder why we are suffering financially; why we are physically sick; why our children are acting like pagans; why our marriages are breaking apart? We openly mock God’s word and wonder why we are so depressed; why have we lost our peace; why are we so fearful? Why – Why – Why? We blame all of our troubles on Satan, but never on ourselves. Admit it dear reader – we are the problem! Not Satan! We have broken covenant with God by setting His word aside and, like spoiled brats, we expect God to reward us, irregardless of our disobedience. May God have mercy on us!

I am frequently asked why I continue to write messages that are so critical of the church? Why do I continue to preach to the choir? Why so much doom and gloom? These questions have always been raised by those who either 1) Are ignorant of God’s covenant agreement with man, or 2) They choose not to believe what they have read or heard, or 3) They trust a man, or their church more than God. They are full of religion but have no power. One thing that I am sure of – there is no fear of God before their eyes!

“An oracle within my heart concerning the transgression of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes.” (Psalm 36:1, also Romans 3:9-18)

“The Lord of hosts, Him you shall hallow; Let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread.” (Isaiah 8:13)

“Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10:28)

I suppose that the greatest criticism I have received is that I am too critical, too judgmental and unloving; I need to learn to “agree to disagree” regardless of what God’s word says. Maybe someone reading this message would agree with my critics. That certainly is your right, and I respect that right. However, I declare for all who have ears to hear: that what some call charity (love) – by maintaining their silence and not standing up to defend the word of the KING – I call such behavior “Treason!” What about you dear reader, are you friend or foe? Are you a faithful steward of the Holy Word of God, or a traitor to His word? Are you a man-pleaser and ashamed of His word or a faithful defender of His word, even when it results in your being hated, despised and given the left foot of fellowship? You are one or the other.

“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned and in keeping them there is great reward.” (Psalm 19:7-11)

Finally, a word from our Lord’s lips:

“For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His father with the holy angels.” (Mark 8:38) (emphasis added)

Will He be ashamed of you - of me?

We will continue soon --- in the meantime, may you draw into His shadow and find peace.

Your brother,
Thomas

"EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE; HE IS A SHIELD TO THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM. DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS, LEST HE REBUKE YOU, AND YOU BE FOUND A LIAR." (PROVERBS 30:5 & 6)