

Psalm 138:2 . . . thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.
Isaiah 66:2 . . . but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and
of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. It has been said that the Bible . . .
 - 1. Is the most owned item in the world, is the largest selling book in the world, and is the most “died for” book in the world.
 - 2. Sells on an average of 50 copies each minute.
 - 3. Has never been disproved by science, archaeology, or history, but has corrected all of these.
- B. To ask how important the Bible is to a true born again Christian is like asking the value of their heart or their soul. There is no way to understate the value of the Bible. It is everything to us, and without it we are nothing.
- C. To ask a Christian to replace his Bible would be like asking him to replace one of his children.
- D. Our Bible is our ONLY source of “special revelation” concerning God.
 - 1. Its words are His words.
 - 2. We learn about Him by listening to the very words He chooses to use to speak to us.
 - 3. The Bible is our ONLY way of hearing from and about God.
- E. The Bible is full of statements about itself:
 - 1. “Word(s) of the Lord” – 274 times
 - 2. “It is written” – 80 times
 - 3. “Scripture(s)” – 53 times
 - 4. “Word(s) of God – 54 times
 - 5. “All the words” – 40 times (34 refer to God’s word)
 - 6. “Law of the Lord” – 21 times
 - 7. “Word of truth” – 5 times

II. HOW IMPORTANT IS THE WORD OF GOD?

- A. Every word of God is essential to life
 - 1. Deut 8:3 “... by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.”
 - 2. Lu 4:4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
- B. It is the seed that can save souls – Lu 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.
- C. It is the source of blessing – Lu 11:28 But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.
- D. It is the sword of the Spirit - our only weapon. – Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God
- E. It is the word of God, not of men – 1 Th 2:13 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 men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.
- F. It is God’s power in our lives – Heb 4:12 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 discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- G. It is that by which we are born again
 - 1. 1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
 - 2. 2Ti 3:15 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.
- H. It is our source of strength – 1 John 2:14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.
- I. It is so valuable that men have died for it – Re 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

- J. It is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
 - 1. Re 19:13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.
 - 2. Rev 20:4 I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God,
- K. It protects us from error
 - 1. Mt 22:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.
 - 2. Ac 17:11 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.
- L. It is the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ – Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.
- M. It is the only sure source of doctrine (reproof, correction, and instruction) – 2Ti 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- N. It alone furnishes us to do good works – II Tim 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- O. It is our assurance of eternal life – 1Jo 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.
- P. It is our source of prosperity – Psalm 1:1-3, Joshua 1:8
- Q. It is that by which we resist temptation - each time the Lord was tempted by the devil, He responded, “it is written.”

III. PSALM 119 – THE “BIBLE” CHAPTER (and longest chapter in the Bible)

- A. Each verse in this Psalm lists an aspect of the importance of God’s word.
- B. Some of these verses are particularly familiar to us.
 - 1. 9 – Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.
 - 2. 11 – Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
 - 3. 63 – I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.
 - 4. 89 – For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.
 - 5. 105 – Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
 - 6. 140 – Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.
 - 7. 165 – Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

IV. CONCLUSION

- A. If someone came to me and claimed they could replace my Bible with something better, more accurate, or easier to read, I would refuse the offer because:
 - 1. There is nothing better
 - 2. My Bible is perfectly accurate
 - 3. My Bible is easy for me to understand, and I know how to use a dictionary
 - 4. I would wonder why they did not know the above three facts, and what they are up to.
- B. Why is it that we understand the importance of individual words when it involves famous literature, a letter from a loved one, or a quote by a famous man, but that some men will accept even the most sloppy and error riddled translation of words found in God’s Holy book?
- C. How is it that we can agree that the word of God is essential beyond description, and then believe that God let His word be corrupted and lost for hundreds, or even one thousand, years, only to finally be brought back to a state of accuracy in the last 150 years by men who were apostates?