

THE HOLY WORD

Handling The Word Of God

- I. 2 Timothy 3:16-God's Word is God's gift to you so how are you handling it?
 - A. 2 Corinthians 4:2-You can handle the Word with deceit, you can handle the Word with disrespect
 - B. Proverbs 13:13-How do we never get caught despising the Word?
- II. Proverbs 4:20-Two questions: 1) Should we give attention to the Word of God 2) Are we? – Millions don't
 - A. Attend-Pay attention, give attention, listen, regard
 - B. In this world there is an untold number of things you can give attention to-We are to give our attention to this
 1. Are you doing this? – *YLT-To my words give your attention*
 - C. Many by the level of attention they are giving to the Word are demonstrating that they don't care because what you don't care about you pay no attention to - Do you care?
 1. Things that are important to you, valuable to you, you give attention to
 2. EX: Woke up at 3:30 in the morning for the Ryder Cup
 3. How much attention you give demonstrates how much you care?
 4. *ES-Be attentive to my words; NABRE-To my words be attentive (regard w/ care, applying of the mind)*
 - D. In your daily life you should be busy with and engaged in this word; 1828-Fix attention upon, be busy or engaged in
 1. Thinking about it, talking about it, applying it, listening to it, reading it – There shouldn't be hours go by and you don't do some of this, let alone days, weeks or months
- III. You give your attention to these words in these two ways 1) Listening and 2) Looking
 - A. Incline your ear (Incline-Extend, incline, turn)
 1. There are many voices speaking different words, lean in to hear mine; *VO-Learn in closer so you may hear all I say*
 2. You can turn your ear towards words of all kinds and by turning your ear towards his words you're turning your ear away from other words; So there's words you won't hear anymore; *NIV-Turn your ear to my words*
 - a. There's all kinds of stuff you don't need to be listening to
 - b. You're choosing His words over others
 - B. Let them not depart from your eyes (Depart-To be lost from view, turning away from the truth)
 1. *VO-Keep them before you; meditate on them; AMP-Don't let them escape from your sight; CSB-Don't lose sight of them; CEB-Don't let them slip from your sight; CJB-Don't let them out of your sight; GNT-Never let them get away from you*
 2. You don't look with your eyes, you look through your eyes with your mind and heart
 3. He told the people in the OT to bind the word to your hand, write them on their door posts and on their gates
- IV. We are to keep these words
 - A. We're talking about something that is very valuable and so you keep watch over it
 1. Keep-Treasure, preserve, protect, take care, guard, retain, hedge about; A close watching of something for guarding
 2. Brier-Shepherds constructed corrals of briers at night to protect the flock from predators-Why? Because it's precious
 3. *YLT-Preserve them in the midst of your heart*
 4. Luke 8:12,15-I won't let go of this word b/c of a circumstance, feeling, report; If you let go it wasn't precious enough to you; The enemy wants to steal it by getting you to let go of it (EX: Pry it from your cold dead hand)
 - B. You retain what you value and you rid yourself of what is not longer important to you
- V. Why treasure these words? There's two reasons, they are 1) Life and 2) Health; Verse 20-21 is the respect and verse 22 is the reward
 - A. They are life to those who find them
 1. These words sustain you-Life-To sustain life (Support, uphold, keep from falling, keep from sinking, assist, relieve)

2. You live on these words-Life-Live on or upon, to live prosperously; Preserve alive, give life
3. You're quickened by these words-Life-Quickened from sickness, discouragement, faintness, death
4. To find you first must seek, to seek you must first value; (Find-Secure, acquire, get, learn); Because I valued the Word (as my answer) I sought I found and what I found was life unto me
 - a. Before you ever experience the life effects of this word you have to value it enough to go in search of it
5. These words are the key to life, the secret of life
 - a. *ERV-These words are the secret of life and health; NCV-They are the key to life*

B. They are health to all their flesh (Healing, profit, cure)

1. Hebrew word for *health* comes from the Hebrew word *Rapha* and is talking about physical sickness-Ex15:26
2. Those words are more real medicine than what the doctor prescribed
3. *CJB-Health to their whole being; TLB-They will mean real life for you and radiant health; MS-Those who discover these words live, really live; body and soul, they're bursting with health; YL-For life they are to those finding them, And to all their flesh healing*

VI. Is the Word just the remedy for your flesh or would the word be the remedy for other areas of your life?

A. The Word is the cure all, the unfailing remedy