

THY WORD IS VERY PURE

PSALMS 119:140; PROVERBS 30:5-6

Text: Psalms 119:140; Proverbs 30:5-6

Psalm 119:140

¹⁴⁰ *Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.*

Proverbs 30:5-6

⁵ **Every word** of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. ⁶ Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Introduction:

Not only is the doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture a foundational doctrine for Bible-believing Christians, so also is the doctrine of the preservation of Scripture.

Paul wrote to Timothy:

2 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

Knowing that all scripture is given by inspiration of God and it is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction we must not neglect any of the Words of God.

We find these words “Every Word” four times in the Bible.

Deuteronomy 8:3

³ *And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, **but by every word** that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

Matthew 4:4

⁴ *But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, **but by every word** that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Luke 4:4

⁴ *And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, **but by every word** of God.*

Proverbs 30:5

⁵ **Every word of God** is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Though the thoughts of God are important, understand His thoughts are expressed through His Word.

If we are going to live by every Word of God, we must make sure that we have an every-Word Bible.

Illustration:

For example, the King James Bible is a direct translation of Scripture from the Greek and Hebrew manuscripts.

In it, you will find a word-for-word translation.

On the other hand, the New International Version is called a dynamic equivalent and not a translation at all.

A dynamic equivalent combines many Greek and Hebrew texts together, and from them, exhibits a thought, i.e., a paraphrase, rather than a word-for-word translation.

For example:

The Revised Standard Version in Luke 4:4 says: And Jesus answered him, "It is written, `Man shall not live by bread alone.'"

It leaves out some important words.

Luke 4:4

⁴ And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, **but by every word of God.**

It fails to state what we should live by – “Every Word of God.”

In John 6:47 the Bible says: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth **on me** hath everlasting life.

In the RSV it says, “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.”

There are two VERY IMPORTANT words missing – “On Me”.

One must believe on Christ to have eternal life.

“In whom we have redemption **through his blood**, even the forgiveness of sins:”

In the RSV it says:

“in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Again there are some VERY IMPORTANT words missing – “Through His Blood.”

Understand:

Hebrews 9:22

²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

We are commanded to live by "every Word" of God.

How can we live by every Word if we cannot read every Word in our Bibles?

Let's Remember:

1. THE CHARACTER OF THE WORD OF GOD (PSALMS 119:140, PROVERBS 30:5-6)

Psalm 119:140

¹⁴⁰ Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.

Proverbs 30:5-6

⁵ Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. ⁶ Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

We note:

A. The Author – “Thy Word” (vss. 137, 142,
Proverbs 30:5)

Psalm 119:137

¹³⁷ Righteous art thou, **O LORD**, and upright are thy judgments.

Psalm 119:142

¹⁴² **Thy** righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

Proverbs 30:5

⁵ Every **word of God** is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

The character of the author of the book will tell you much about the quality of the book. No one has high character as God, the Word's Author.

B. The Authority – “Thy Testimonies
Commanded” (vs. 138)

Psalm 119:138

¹³⁸ Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.

The Word of God is God's testimonies and God's commands. Therefore they carry much authority; in fact, the authority supersedes all other authority.

C. The Attributes (vss. Proverbs 30:5, Psalms 137-138, 142, 144)

The attributes of the Word of God speak of its great character.

Note 5 great attributes of God's Word.

- The Word is Flawless (Pure)

Proverbs 30:5

⁵ Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Psalms 119:140

¹⁴⁰ Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.

The word pure has the idea of a refiner who purges the impurities out of metal or gold. It literally means with no impurities.

The Word of God has no impurities or errors.

It is completely true with no mixture of error in it. No other book can claim this attribute as strongly and surely as the Scriptures.

The Word of God is Flawless.

- The Word is Fair

Psalm 119:137-138

¹³⁷ Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments. ¹³⁸ Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.

Psalm 119:142

¹⁴² Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

Psalm 119:144

¹⁴⁴ The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

God's Word is righteous.

It is not like many books which are evil in that they encourage evil or have an evil objective.

In at least three ways the noble character (fairness) of the Word is emphasized in this section.

Note:

- First – the Word is Righteous (vs. 138)

The Word is unbiased, fair, not corrupt, unlike some of those involved with the courts or in law enforcement today who can be bribed or legislate their own agenda.

- Second – the Word of God is Refined (vs. 140)

As we previously stated the Word has been refined by God. Man cannot find impurities in it.

- Third – the Word of God is Right (truth vs. 142)

The Word of God is always right. Few books can say that.

- The Word is Faithful

Psalm 119:138

¹³⁸ Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.

God's word is reliable. It is firm. It will stand faithfully on every issue. It is steadfastly holy.

- The Word of God is Forever

Psalm 119:144

¹⁴⁴ The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

The Word of God will be around long after everything man has said or written has disappeared. (Note Mark 13:31)

Mark 13:31

³¹ *Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.*

- The Word is Fortifying

Psalm 119:144

¹⁴⁴ *The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.*

The psalmist wants understanding of the Word, because the Word gives life.

If the Word gets in the heart of the church members, that church will not be a dead church.

2. THE CONTENTS OF THE WORD OF GOD (PROVERBS 30:6)

Proverbs 30:6

⁶ *Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.*

This is a warning to not tamper with the contents of the Scripture.

Note:

A. The Problem of Adding to the Scripture

This can be done by either addition or subtraction, for in either case it adds a meaning to Scripture that is not in the original.

This command was also given back in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 4:2

² Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

In Revelation we see another strong warning about tampering with the Word of God.

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸ For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹ And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Note not only the Problem of adding the Scripture but also:

B. The Punishment for Adding to the Scripture

Proverbs 30:6

⁶ *Add thou not unto his words, lest he **reprove** thee, and thou be **found a liar**.*

Judgment comes upon those who tamper with the Word of God. This judgment is stated quite mildly compared to the judgment expressed in Revelation 22:18, 19.

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸ *For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹ And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

To be reprov'd of God and revealed as a liar by God is judgment one does not want to experience in the slightest.

Close:

God has magnified His Word above His name.

Psalm 138:2

² I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

The Book you hold right there in your hands is the Word of God.

It is perfectly infallible in its inspiration and preservation.

It is called the Word, the Word of God, the Word of Christ, the Word of truth, the Holy Scriptures, the Scripture of Truth, the Law of the Lord, the Sword of the Spirit, and the Oracles of God.

It is pure, true, perfect, precious, quick, and powerful.

It was written for our instruction and intended for our use.

The Word of God is regenerating, quickening, illuminating, able to convert the soul, able to make the simple wise, sanctifying, faith-producing, hope-producing, obedience producing, able to cleanse the heart, able to cleanse the way, able to keep us from a

destructive path, admonishing, comforting, and heart-rejoicing.

It should be our standard and should be believed, appealed to, read, known, received, searched daily, memorized, taught to all, spoken of often, not handled deceitfully, and should be obeyed.

As a Christian, you should love It exceedingly, delight in It, regard It as sweet, esteem It above all things, long after It, stand in awe of It, keep It in remembrance, hide It in our hearts, hope in It, meditate in It, rejoice in It, trust in It, obey It, and speak of It.

Why you may ask.

The Word of God is very pure therefore we too should love it.