

# God And His Word

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God has spoken through the prophets in times past and through His Son in the last days.(Heb. 1:1-2). John wrote, **“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”**( John 1:17).

God has revealed Himself to man through His word. For example, **“ And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord. And the word of Samuel came to all Israel...”**( 1 Samuel 3:21 4:1). We could not know the character of God without His word. We could know of a higher power, a God but we could not know His nature. God has revealed his mind to us. Paul wrote, **“But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.”** (1 Cor 2:10-12). Through inspiration God made known His will. (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

Let us now compare some of the attributes of God to His word. God is powerful; thus his word is powerful. (Heb. 4:12). The word of God reveals His power in the creation.(Gen. 1:1-ff). He spoke this world and universe into existence. **“By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.”** (Psalm 33:6-9). Here is just one evidence of the power of God. Paul wrote the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. (Rom. 1:16). He said further in the Hebrews letter, “the word of God is quick and powerful...” (Heb. 4:12). The Gospel is the power of God to save man. What should be my response to the Gospel?

God is sovereign, thus his word is authoritative.(1 Pet. 4:11). Many today do not have the respect for the Holy scriptures that they should. The word of God is the standard, the only standard by which the Christian should live in this life. Christ charged all Christians **“ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:”** (Matthew 28:18 19). Notice he said **“go ye therefore and teach!”** Based on the authority of the Lord we are to teach. Teach what? Continue in verse twenty. They were to **“teach all things, whatsoever I have commanded you.”** The word must be our standard of authority in religious matters today.

God is holy; therefore His word demands holiness. (1 Pet. 1:15-16). We are reminded of Peter’s words, **“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”** Holy living is to characterize the child of God. Again from Peter we learn, **“Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,”** (2 Pet 3:11). Twice in first Peter two, he refers to Christians as holy, in verse five as a holy priesthood, and in verse nine as a holy nation. This word means to be pure, blameless, sacred, consecrated. Our lives are to be different from the world.

God is merciful; and it is no surprise that His word calls for mercy from those that are His children. God has always been merciful. Remember what Moses wrote, **“And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty;”** (Exo. 34:6-7a). God has been merciful unto us by forgiving our sins and iniquities.(Heb. 8:12). Is it surprising to us that God requires mercy from us? (Mat. 5:7).

God is love; and it follows that the first and great commandment is love. (Mat. 22:37-38). We know of God’s love because He sent His Son. (Jn. 3:16). John, who is called the apostle of love, summed up this point very well. He wrote, 1 John 4:8 11 **“He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”** Matthew wrote that love is the first and great commandment. Love is the foundation of our salvation, and it must be the foundation from which we work as the children of God.

The Bible reveals to us the nature of God. It is interesting that this same word also requires us to conform ourselves to be like Him. Is not that our goal? In order to meet this objective, I must make myself familiar with word of God. Not only will I grow in the knowledge of God’s nature and character, but I will increase my knowledge of the life He desire I live. Some do not, by words or actions, have the same attitude. We like to pick and choose what verses apply to our lives, and what verses apply to others. When a sermon is preached and I have someone else in mind, then I am on dangerous ground. Am I willing to accept the word of God?

Rejecting the word of the God is equal to rejecting God himself.(Jn. 12:48). John wrote, **“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”** (John 12:48). Notice that the rejection in this passage is twofold. The rejection is both of Christ and His word. I cannot accept Jesus as my savior and then despise His word. I cannot accept the Son of God and Man and then deny the scriptures which would make me to repent and change my life. You want Christ, then you absolutely must have His word, his word in all its truth, whether you like what it teaches or not. (idea for this article from Frank Chesser’s book, “The Spirit of Liberalism”)