

THE WORD OF GOD
AND THE ENEMIES KEY PLAN

- ❑ The enemy has always approached the Word of God with one simple plan. When Eve quoted God the devil questioned the validity of it and challenged her to think outside of the box or in this case outside of the Word of God. Eve and Adam learned that was a bad choice.
- ❑ Read again Matthew 4.1-11
- ❑ How does Satan use or misuse the Word of God?

❑ What is the key to Jesus' victory?

❑ How should this be applied to our lives as believers?

George Washington said: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports..."

Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on our minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles"

1. Henry H. Halley, *Halley's Bible Handbook* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan 1927, 1965) p 18.
2. *IBID.*, 19.
3. Ronald Reagan, "Address to the National Religious Broadcasters Convention," Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington, DC, January 30, 1984.
4. <http://religionandpolitics.org/2012/06/25/when-the-court-took-on-prayer-the-bible-and-public-schools/> accessed October 31, 2017
5. Matthew 25.41
6. Matthew 28.19
7. Ephesians 6.12
8. 1 Timothy 6.12
9. Rick Steadman, *Praying the Armor of God*, Harvest House Publishers, 2015, page 56



THE WORD

"It is impossible to righteously govern the world without God and the Bible." George Washington ¹

"That book, sir, is the rock upon which our republic Rest." Andrew Jackson ²

"Within the covers of one single book, the Bible, are all the answers to all the problems that face us today—if only we would read and believe." Ronald Reagan ³



On June 25, 1962, the United States Supreme Court decided in *Engel v. Vitale* that a prayer approved by the New York Board of Regents for use in schools violated the First Amendment by constituting an

establishment of religion. The following year, in *Abington School District v. Schempp*, the Court disallowed Bible readings in public schools for similar reasons. These two landmark Supreme Court decisions centered on the place of religion in public education, and particularly the place of Protestantism, which had long been accepted as the given American faith tradition. ⁴

Since these decisions the floodgates of secularism have been opened and the change in the nation with the

removal of the Word of God, the Bible, have shown the ramifications of a nation being run without God.

The Word of God is either truth and the foundation of truth for the believer and the world or it is an insignificant book with only slight historical value. The difference lies in the heart of the one reading the book and the validity of what it says.

THE PURPOSE OF THE WORD

- Read Hebrews 4.12
For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- What three qualities are found in the Word of God?

- How is each one important to the growth and protection of the believer?

- Read John 17.17
"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.
- What two things do we learn about the Word of God here?

- How is the word of God beneficial for the believer?

reading and meditating on the Scriptures releases the inherent power of the Word of God." ⁹ Yet, few understand the foundation or source of that power when the Word of God is applied.

- Read John 1.1-4 ESV
- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- What is the KEY to understanding the foundation of the Word of God and why it is so important in our fight against evil?

- How does light defeat darkness? How does this help the believer understand the need to shine the light of truth into this dark and sinful world?

- Read 2 Timothy 3.16-17
- All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- What is the key reason we can use the Word of God for all areas of our life?

- How does the Word of God work in the life of a believer?

THE WORD OF GOD AS AN OFFENSIVE WEAPON

- ❑ Modern Christians have taken an approach of always being on the defensive and not on the offense. Most seem to function on a go along to get along approach to daily living. This is very different from the directions given the first believers by Jesus. They were told to 'God and make disciples.'⁶ Clearly 'our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.'⁷ This is a real battle against a real enemy army and the reason Paul reminded Timothy to 'fight the good fight of faith.'⁸
- ❑ Read Hebrews 4.12
For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- ❑ How can the Word of God be used as an offensive weapon against Evil?

- ❑ What are some ways our country/society would be different if the Word of God was the foundation of daily life and our laws?

THE WORD OF GOD IS SELF INSTALLING

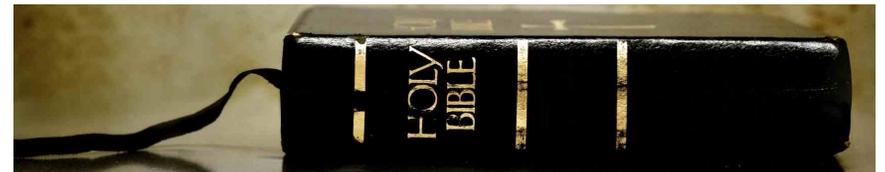
- ❑ Comparing the Word of God to computer software Rick Steadman said, "The Word of God is self installing....Just

- ❑ Read Psalm 119.105
Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.
- ❑ How can this be applied to the life of the believer in their everyday life?

- ❑ Read Hosea 4.6
My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.
Because you have rejected knowledge,
I also will reject you from being My priest.
Since you have forgotten the law of your God,
I also will forget your children.
- ❑ What was the result of the people not knowing the word of God? How can this be seen in our modern world?

- ❑ What had happened to the priest that has happened to preachers in our time?

- ❑ How does this show the value of the Sword in the life of a believer?



THE WORD OF GOD AS A DEFENSIVE WEAPON

The enemy will never quit until God calls an end to this conflict and sends them away into 'the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.'" ⁵ We must never let our guard down and we must always be prepared to stand against the devil, his messengers and all the lies they tell. That is why the Armor includes a weapon in the list.

Read Matthew 4.1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"

Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written,

'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and

' ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"

Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.

What were the three different ways the devil attempted to get Jesus to sin?

What do we learn about the devil and the Word of God?

How did the devil respond to the Word of God?

What did Jesus do for all three of His responses to the temptations of the devil?

Why would the Word of God be the best way for Jesus to respond to the devil?

What is the KEY LESSON that can be learned from this encounter of Jesus and the devil?

How does Jesus demonstrate that truth sets a person free?