



HOMESWORD

August 1998

...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15b

HOW IS YOUR ATTITUDE?

It is our attitude towards God's Word that determines our spirituality. There should be a degree of reverence and worship in our handling of God's Word. The Bible is not just another book. It is God's Word, God - the creator of the heavens and the earth.

II Timothy 3:16

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

All scripture is God breathed. God is spirit and does not breath. But when the Bible gives human characteristics to God, it is a figure of speech, put there by God to emphasize the point being made. In other words:

**ALL SCRIPTURE IS FROM
GOD!!! HELLO!!!
DID YOU HEAR ME???
FROM GOD!!!**

God's Word stands above all other knowledge. If something does not fit with God's Word, God's Word is right. But that something must fit with the whole word, not just a part of God's Word.

II Peter 1:20

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

None of God's Word is of any private interpretation. The word private can be translated as one's own; the word interpretation can be translated as letting loose upon (as a dog is let loose upon the game). None of God's Word is of one's own letting loose upon. It is not a matter of man going wild with all kinds of ideas of what God is trying to say. God's Word is not a springboard for man to propound his own ideas.

II Peter 1:21

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

God's Word did not come by the will of man. That is quite a concept, because that is how we get most of our knowledge. Man thinks and reasons and propounds his ideas, and others hear those ideas and continue to talk about what came by man's will (and someone may even write it down).

But God's Word did not come that way. Man did not think about something for a while and finally decide he should write it down. It was not something that had been taught from generation to generation and finally, some-

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where along the way, someone decided to write it down and it became God's Word.

Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by God. It wasn't just any "Joe-blow" off the street, it was holy men of God that wrote down God's Word. These were men who loved God, who had reverence for God, who listened to God and did not deviate from what God said. And what they wrote was not what they willed to write but what God told them to write. That makes it God's Word.

Galatians 1:11,12

But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught *it*, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

NOT AFTER MAN, NOT TAUGHT IT - there are not very many other ways to learn something. How we got God's Word does not make sense to the natural human mind. God's Word did not come by the normal means of learning. It came by revelation.

Not only is the Bible God's Word, it is absolutely necessary for life.

Matthew 4:4b

...It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Again, what is your attitude towards God's Word? Is it that you are glad that man wrote it down and that it has some great stuff in it that stimulates your thoughts? Or is it that the Bible is God's Word and that it is absolutely necessary for life?

Most people would consider physical food as necessary for life, that one meal a week is not sufficient. Yet how many consider God's Word as necessary for life. I'm not talking about mental stimulation or something to make you feel good about yourself. Man needs God's Word for life, to be among the living.

Things written by man may be good to stimulate thought, but God's Word tells us what is right and what is wrong. God's Word is not to be debated, it is to be understood and applied so that we may live life to the fullest.

Psalm 119:72

The law of thy mouth *is* better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

Psalm 119:162

I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.

People who are hungry for life will come to God's Word, because it is necessary for life. They will realize that an understanding of God's Word is better than thousands of gold and silver. It is as finding great spoil, like a kid in a candy store.

So what is your attitude towards God's Word? Do you really believe in the depths of your heart that it is the Word of God (the creator of the heavens and the earth)? Do you look forward to the next chance you have to delve into it; do you make the time to read God's Word and not let other things steal that time? Is it a must have? When you have a need in your life, do you go to God's Word for answers? Do you spend as much time reading God's Word as you do the current popular self-help book? Do you handle God's Word with respect? Do you have a special place you go to read God's Word? Is it as much a joy to curl up in a chair with God's Word as it is a romance novel? Do you get upset when people trash God's Word? Does it hurt your heart when you see others being disrespectful of God's Word? Do you get goosebumps just holding God's Word and thinking about how blessed you are to have it available to you?

It is our attitude towards God's Word that determines our spirituality. So, how's your attitude?

In God's Love
Ray

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