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### The Importance Of The Word. Pt. 3

From our study of the word we have seen that the word is said to be many things.

1. The word is a lamp.
2. The word is fire.
3. The word is a hammer.
4. The word is a seed.
5. The word is a sword.
6. The word is food for the new life.

We want to look at the third and last study of the importance of the word as a standard for the Christian life for the benefit off three areas.

- I. The word is important to be happy.
- II. The word is important for spiritual responsibility.
- III. The word is important for self-examination.

#### **I. The word is important to be happy.**

A. The believer is to be happy due to being God centered instead of self centered. Ja. 1:25

\* “But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

1. Happiness in the world is usually based on what one has or is experiencing, being conditional and self-centered.
2. Happiness in the scriptures is based on what one does in relation to God, being conditional but God-centered.
3. Happiness is usually related to our emotions while joy is based on what we know about God. 1Jn. 1:4

**B.** The believer is happy when he or she is obedient to God’s word.

1. The first Psalm presents the state of the godly man in contrast to the ungodly as the premise and conclusion of the book of Psalms. Ps. 1:1-2
  - a. The word blessed “esher” means happy, happiness or bliss, found forty times in the O.T.
  - b. The godly man's practice is not to walk in the counsel of the ungodly.
  - c. The godly man's delight is not to stand in the paths of sinners.
  - d. The godly man’s meditation is not to sit in the seat of the scornful.
2. The sermon on the mount presents the godly man as one who is happy by being not doing. Math. 5:3-12
  - a. The word blessed “markarios” means happy.

- b. The one who is poor in spirit, meaning humble, seeing their spiritual bankruptcy before God. Vs. 3
  - c. The one who mourns over his or her sinful state. Vs. 4
  - d. The one who is meek means power under control, not weakness. Vs. 5
  - e. The one who hungers and thirsts after spiritual things. Vs. 6
  - f. The one who is merciful, compassionate towards others. Vs. 7
  - g. The one who is pure in heart, living in the holiness of God. Vs. 8
  - h. The one who is a peacemaker, loving to see restoration and reconciliation to people. Vs. 9
  - i. The one who is persecuted, afflicted for Christ sake. Vs. 10
  - j. The one who is falsely accused for Christ sake. Vs. 11
  - k. The one who knows these things has joy knowing that he is in good company and will be rewarded by God. Vs. 12
- C. The believer is happy when he or she reads in God's word that God doesn't keep an account of sins. Ps. 32:1-6
- \* "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not

impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You In a time when You may be found; Surely in a flood of great waters They shall not come near him."

1. One's transgressions are forgiven and sins are covered. Vs. 1
  2. One's sins are not charged to his account. Vs. 2
  3. One's guilt is removed. Vs. 3
  4. One's conviction is acted upon. Vs. 4
  5. One's confession brings about forgiveness. Vs. 5-6
- \* The recognition of error is acknowledged removing guilt and sin resulting in restoration of fellowship with God and joy!

### **Illustration**

Jesus told His disciples that the word was important to be happy after He washed their feet

by saying, “If you know these things happy are you if you do them”. Jn. 13:12

*The word is important to be happy!*

## II. The word is important for spiritual responsibility.

\* Every believer is a ambassador representing heaven, a steward of God whose chief end is to increase all God has given him! 2Cor. 5:20

A. The believer is responsible to give an answer to very man who asks him about his hope in Christ. 1Pet. 3:15

\* “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.”

1. By life: sanctifying the Lord God in your heart.

\* People are so ignorant to the truth of God’s word today yet are excepting every lie being propagated!

2. By word: giving and answer or defense of the hope that is in you.

3. By attitude: with meekness and fear.

a. My life is the only epistle many will ever read.

b. My life communicates what I really believer.

c. My life is to reflect my Lord and Master.

B. The believer is responsible to teach what he has learned. 2Tim. 2:2

\* “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

1. You have been taught faithfully.

\* Being responsible to attend church regularly and faithfully.

2. You are to teach others who are faithful.

\* The best way to learn is to hear, write it and teach it

3. Others are to teach others.

a. Freely you have received freely give. Matt. 10:7-8

b. It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts. 20:35

C. The believer is responsible to defend the faith. Jude 3-4

\* “Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men

have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1. To teach no other doctrine. 1Tim. 1:3  
\* Be it to religions, philosophy, traditions or the basic teachings of humanism and evolution!
  - a. Kingdom and Dominion theology.
  - b. Demon possession for Christians.
  - c. The Prosperity Gospel.
  - d. The Gospel of “Christian Psychology”.
2. To expose false teachers by name. 1Tim. 2:20
  - a. Jesus mentioned names.
  - b. Paul mentioned names.
  - c. Make sure you have done your homework.
3. To check all things by the scriptures. Act. 17:11
  - a. The Word is the standard and plume-line.
  - b. Affirming the truth in it’s context.
4. To be diligent to rightly divide the word of truth. 2Tim. 2:15
  - a. By reading in repetition.
  - b. By inductive study.
5. To recognize that the last days will be marked by a form of godliness but deny

the power of God to transform life. 2Tim. 3:5

- a. This identifies psychology.
  - b. This identifies sociology.
  - c. This identifies anthropology
6. To reject a heretic after two admonitions. Tit. 3:10
    - a. This is the most loving things to do!
    - b. To protect the church and perhaps the person will repent.

### **Illustration**

Jesus was the greatest example of spiritual responsibility regardless of the cost.

***The word is important for spiritual responsibility!***

### **III. The word is important for self-examination.**

- A. The believer is responsible for his or her own examination. 1Cor. 11:28-32  
\* “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we

are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.”

1. Let a man examine himself.
  - a. To the Scriptures.
  - b. To your life in relation to the Scriptures.
  - c. Each of us should run our lives like we run our check book, keeping it balance.
2. Examine yourself as to whether you are in the faith, prove yourselves. 2Cor. 12:5
  - a. A life that is not examined is not worth living!
  - b. A life not examined does not know when it is off base.
  - c. Adjust your course as the currents of life attempt to get you off course.

**B.** The believer must be a doer of the word. Ja. 1:22-25

\* “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of

the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

1. To avoid self deception, “Deceiving yourself”. Vs. 22
  - a. Self-deception is the worst type of deception, though Satan, sin and the world can equally deceive you.
  - b. The person can not see it.
2. To avoid hypocrisy, “Hearer not a doer”. Vs. 23
  - a. It is like looking into a mirror, it reveals to us the real condition.
  - b. Who ignores the flaws revealed in the mirror, no one.
3. To avoid the inability to recognize error, “Forgets what kind of man he was”. Vs. 24
  - a. Forgetting that God will hold him accountable for what he or she knows.
  - b. To those that much is given, much is required. Lk. 12:48
4. To be blessed or happy in what he does, “Continues and is not a forgetful hearer”. Vs. 25
  - a. The person knowing they are right with God and pleasing Him.
  - b. The person knowing they will reap if they sow to obedience.

**C.** The believer must accept change. 2Cor. 4:16-18

- \* Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”
1. The inner man is to be renewed day by day. Vs. 16
    - a. This physical body is not going to stay the same forever, grow old gracefully.
    - b. The inward or spiritual man is to be in process being transformed constantly.
    - c. I am to demand and expect change in my life from myself.
  2. The present affliction can not be compared to the eternal glory to come. Vs. 17
    - a. As we go through the temporal difficulties of life, we will see the wealth they will become to us in this life.
    - b. When we get to heaven we will see the ultimate eternal worth.
  3. The focus of the believer is the things that are not seen. Vs. 18

- a. The things of the Spirit.
  - b. The things of God.
- D.** The believer can not give what he does not possess. 2Tim. 2:6  
 \* “The hard-working farmer must be first to partake of the crops.”
1. The farmer first partake of the fruit.  
 \* It is like having the measles, you can not give what he does not have.
  2. The prophet Ezekiel ate the scroll. Ezk. 3:1-3
- E.** The believer is called to holiness. 1Pet. 1:15  
 \* “But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.”
1. For God is holy. 1Pet. 1:16
  2. For it is the will of God sexually. 1Thes. 4:1-8
  3. For it is the least we can do for all He has done. Rom. 12:1-2

### **Illustration**

The word is like a mirror that we might see our shortcomings and correct them.

*The word is important for self-examination!*

### **Conclusion**

The word of God is important.

- I. To be happy!

- II.** To be spiritually responsible!
- III.** To self-examine ourselves!