

GOD THE BEGINNING OF THE WORD (John 1:1-4 and Colossians 1:15-18)

1. Our God existed before our world was made and he therefore lives **out of our age, time and space**.
2. Our attitude, mindset and **approach** therefore ought to be different because He doesn't do things according to "that watch on your wrist". He sees from Above.
3. **You are not your own**, you were created and made for Him. Quit living for yourself and get to understand what God's purpose is for your life. Ended by asking is God still at your beginning?

JESUS THE PERSON OF THE WORD - THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD (John 1:6-12 and Hebrews 4:8-13)

From the previous verses we do find out that Jesus is God, He was with God, in Him all things were made for Him and then that verse (**4a**) in Him was Life, and the **Life** was the **Light** of Men.

1 clear characteristic is expressed of Jesus the Person of the Word here - **Life and Light that point us to the life of Jesus written down in this one book: **THE BIBLE** (All the way from Genesis to Revelation, yes Jesus is all over the Bible).The entrance of your word (**Psalms 119:130**)**

Some Evidence;

1 John 1:1-3

That which **was from the beginning**, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning **the word of life**— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the **eternal life**, which **was with the Father** and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 5:7 (NKJV)

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, **the Word**, and the Holy Spirit and these three are one.

John 6:30-35, 51, 63

So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you **the true bread from heaven**. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives **life to the world**." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "**I am the bread of life**; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

51 I am **the living bread** that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will **live forever**. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The **words that I have spoken** to you are **spirit** and **life**.

Proverbs 3:1-2

My son, do not forget the Law, But let your heart keep my commands, for length of days and **Long life** and peace they will add to you.

This Word (words of Jesus) are Life and TRUTH as well;

John 14:6 (The Word, Jesus speaking of himself says)

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the **truth**, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:25-26

“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will **teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.**

John 16:12-14

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into **all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority**, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, **for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.** All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

So understand this that while Jesus isn't here physically, He as He was in the beginning with God is very present today through **the Bible. The Holy Spirit is meant to show us that daily right from Genesis to Revelation so that we know the **TRUTH**, walk in the **LIGHT** and therefore receive **LIFE ETERNAL**, (which is Knowing Him).**

“The BIBLE is the portrait of Jesus” John Stott. “

Through the Written Word we discover the Living Word - Jesus Christ” Billy Graham

And so the Bible daily asks these questions;

1. Are you walking in the Truth or are you living a Lie?
2. Are you walking in the Light or are you groping in the dark?
3. Are you sure of your Life eternal or do you live in fear of death?

Allow me to present 4 P's about This Word that will help us answer those questions in an affirmative positive way for the glory of God!

1. Recognize the **POWER** of the **WORD** (The Bible)

- We have seen The Bible is actually God's Word. **2 timothy 3:16** All Scripture is **breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. "**God and God's Word are inseparable**" **Billy Graham**
- **Psalms 12:6** (The words of the LORD are **Pure** words, Like Silver tried in a furnace of earth. Purified seven times). **Free of Flaws or imperfections, sound, untainted.**
"If we do not love the Bible, we certainly do not love the God who gave it to us; but if we do love the God we gave it to us, then no other book in the entire world will be comparable in our minds. When God speaks, it is the delight of our ears to hear what he says. In other books there is some truth and some error. Apart from the Bible, the best book ever written has mistakes in it. It is not possible for fallible men to write infallible books. Somehow or other we either say more than is true or less than is true. The most skillful writer does not always keep along that hairline of truth that is more difficult to tread than a razor's edge. But Scripture never errs". Charles Spurgeon
- **Psalms 119:142** your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is **true**.
- **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is **living and active**, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- **1 Peter 1:25/Matthew 24:35/Isaiah 40:8** but the word of the Lord remains forever/Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away/The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever...
- **Jeremiah 23:29** is not my word **like fire**, declares the Lord, and **like a hammer** that breaks the rock in pieces? Likened to a fire and hammer, yes that powerful.

2. Seek out and Pursue the Word's full **PARTICIPATION** in your Life

- **1 Thessalonians 2:13** And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you **accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God**, which is at work in you believers. Accept it as God's Word, only then will it work in your Life.
- **Romans 10:17** so faith comes from **hearing**, and hearing through the word of Christ. Keep at it, on your phones, audio, carry the hard copy, listen, listen, study and listen.

- **Joshua 1:8/Psalm 1:2** This Book of the Law **shall not depart** from your mouth, but you shall **meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For it not to depart, meditate on it day and night
- **Deuteronomy 6:6-9** and these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You **shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets** between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- **1 Peter 2:2** like newborn infants, **long/crave/desire** for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- **Colossians 3:16** Let the word of Christ **dwell** in you richly...
- **2 Timothy 1:13** **Hold fast** the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me...
- **Psalms 119:11** I have **stored up (hidden) your word in my heart** that I might not sin against you.
- **Job 23:12** I have not departed from the commandment of his lips; I have **treasured** the words of his mouth more than my portion of food.

“Wherever the Word of God is hidden or ignored, there will be certain destruction” Billy Graham

3. Gladly and joyfully accept its PUSH (charge).

- **Luke 11:28/James 1:22** But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and **keep/obey it!**” Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.
- **2 Timothy 2:15** Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, **rightly handling** the word of truth.
- **Jeremiah 20:9** If I say, “I will not mention him, or **speak** any more in his name,” there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. You can’t keep God’s Word to yourself, remember when you just came to the Lord, it was overflowing, you couldn’t keep it.
- **Hebrews 10:24-25** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, **not neglecting to meet together**, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Allow me to dwell in here a bit, many of us today you have no fellowship of any sort! 2 types smaller group maybe 3 to 15, gather and study the word and the bigger one, part of the church-3pm, this one many of you are misplaced, and you are lost. How will you grow? No fellowship at all

“We must allow the word of god to confront us, to disturb our security, to undermine our complacency and to overthrow our patterns of thought and behavior”. John Stott

4. Keep the Presence of the WORD

- **Psalm 119:105** your word is a lamp to my **feet** and a light to my **path**. Direction
- **Psalm 119:9** Keeps **sin away**
- **Psalm 119:130** The unfolding/entrance of Your words gives light, it **informs/gives understanding** to the simple. We were having Springs fellowship the other day and agreed how we need to be weary, when you are in a fellowship, service and you hear someone go like “you see this thing has a deeper meaning”, your Antennas should get up. As it speaks to a 3 year old, it should a 60 year old. Of course to handle it better and so forth you are encouraged to say do theology and so forth but on any normal given day, God’s word ought to speak to you as simple as you would eat pie.
- **1 Timothy 4:13** until I come, devote yourself to the **public reading of Scripture**, to exhortation, to teaching. (Reading, exhortation, to doctrine). Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your **progress**. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Progress, growth, transformation in any believer will be seen not by miracles, signs and wonders but by true good teaching. Angela’s testimony (no name) Kakande -jerry cans, what is the distinction? Teaching. Many seek prosperity, miracles and so forth in experiences - hoping from church to church (which experiences I don’t undermine by the way, they have their place I guess) however Jesus for one encouraged faith without sight of “miracles” and I guess the question would be what differentiates that from a dupe? **GOOD TRUTHFUL TEACHING.** **Because good teaching will for example teach you that (1 john 3:2** Beloved, I pray that you may prosper, in **all things**, and be in health, just as your soul prospers) says prosperity has much more than riches if any at all, it includes, good health, friendships, family, fellowship-a place you can call church - all that is prosperity. Because of what gain are powerful experiences, when your integrity is flawed? Unfortunately you guys need to understand that “gospelwood” isn’t Jesus, you love all these preachers, musicians, they are powerful and then you realize boom, in all their power, sin dwells, so look to Jesus, search the scriptures and find him.

This Word (Jesus) still speaks to you and I today as you flip through the Pages of the Bible and allow the Spirit to teach. Little by little His Light begins to shine in your heart and day by day you walk unto the journey of Life Eternal.

“Why do you need a voice when you have a verse”

Jim Elliot