

BECOMING A DANGEROUS, DARING DISCIPLE

“The Character of the Word of God”

Sermon by Pastor Phil Wade

1. God called His book the word of God. God also called His Son, Jesus, the Word of God.

John 1:1-3 says, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) He was in the beginning with God. (3) All things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made.*

John 1:14 says, *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

God positions us so that we depend on Him and give Him glory. Life is not dependent on us. Our life is dependent on us abiding in Jesus (Who is the Word), praying, and staying in the Word of God (a name that God gives to Jesus).

2. Both Jesus and The Word are given by God, as we are told in these two Scriptures.

2 Timothy 3:16 says, *All Scripture is **given by the inspiration of God,** and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...”*

John 1:14 says, *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the **only begotten of the Father,** full of grace and truth.*

3a. Jesus and the Word of God are both eternal.

Hebrews 13:8 says, *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

Isaiah 40:8 says, *The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever.*

3b. The Word of God and Jesus participate in creation.

Hebrews 13:11 says, *By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*

Colossians 1:16 says, *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.*

4. Jesus came that we may be redeemed. The Word and Jesus call for our redemption not by our works, but through Jesus Christ. Jesus came that we may be redeemed.

1Peter 1:23-24 says, *...having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the Word of God which lives and abides forever, (24) because 'All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away'...*"

Ephesians 1:7 says, *In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace...*"

5. *****Stop tending to the grave of your regrets and stop living in the past! Ask God to deliver you from the consequences of your sin, and get back to Kingdom building! *****

1John 1:9 says, *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

John 15:3 says, *You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.*

6. The Word written and Jesus are the same. Both are similar in condemnation.

John 12:48 says, *He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him - the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.*

John 5:22 says, *For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son.*

With all this said, notice....

I. Jesus throughout the Bible

~The character of the Bible and the character of Jesus are inseparable; they're linked together.

~ Cover to cover, the written word presents, without error, the living word - and the living word believed the written word.

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus spoke of this:

Luke 24:25-27 says, *Then He said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! (26) Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?' (27) And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.*

*****We literally have in our possession the words that Jesus was speaking of - our Bible. Jesus is revealed in its pages if we look for Him.*****

II. The "I Believe" Principle

Jesus did live on earth for 33 years, but we must know and believe that Jesus is eternal. The entire Bible tells the story of Jesus, points to Jesus, and shows us how the law in itself is not enough. We need a Savior, and that Savior is Jesus. We need forgiveness and grace, and both those gifts come from our eternal Savior, Jesus Christ. The Old Testament tells us WHY we need the eternal Jesus and the New Testament tells us what He did for us, and that He will surely return.

Jesus and the written word are woven together, and to take a lesser view of the Bible is to make less of Jesus.

III. Overcoming barriers

When we look around at our family, community, country and the world, we can see barriers - at least that's what we call them. God's word has the power to overcome barriers. Our job is to present the Bible clearly. Faith comes by hearing. It's powerful. God will give us the words to say. **Stop living in fear and trust God to give you what you need to move the Kingdom of God forward...Start where you are. You have a story to tell. Tell it.**

Jesus is the only hope.

We must declare that.

**There are no substitutes for Jesus -
and guess where He can be found?**

The Bible.