

## THE WORD...THAT SETTLES IT!

<sup>9</sup> So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. <sup>10</sup> For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. <sup>11</sup> Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through *following* the same example of disobedience. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. **Hebrews 4:9-16 NASB**

“The Word of God is a name for Christ as well as for the Scriptures. The Scriptures are meant in this place, but the Lord Jesus is never dissevered therefrom: indeed, He is the substance of the written Word. Scripture is what it is because the Lord Jesus embodies himself.” **Charles Spurgeon**

For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing *and* sifting *and* analyzing *and* judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart. **Hebrews 4:12 AMPC**

- Note: We go from the ‘rest’ of God (**v9-11**) to the sword of God. **V12**
- The Word of God is alive and full of power. **V12 AMPC**
  - Active is the Word of God and energetic...**v12 Wuest**
  - At work accomplishing His will. **N.T. Transline**
  - Full of life and power. **Weymouth**
- The Word is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life, and the immortal spirit...
  - Able to judge the impulses of and designs of the heart. **Rotherham**

- Penetrating the joints and marrow...the deepest parts of our nature, and is the sifter and analyzer of the reflections and conceptions of the heart.

**Wuest**

- The point is that God will be able to discern genuine faith from unbelief and action from intention. **N.T. Transline**

- The qualities of the Word
  - It is divine. It is the Word of God
  - It is living. "The Word of God is quick."
    - In contrast to our words, which pass away, God's Word lives on.
    - It has life in itself. It is "the living and incorruptible seed."
    - It creates life where it comes.
    - It can never be destroyed and exterminated.
  - It kills self-righteousness, sin, unbelief.
  - It is piercing: "even to the dividing asunder."
  - It forces its way into the hard heart.
  - It penetrates the smallest opening, like the arrow which entered between the joints of the harness.
  - It is discriminating: "to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit."
  - It separates things much alike: natural and internal religion, "joints and marrow."
  - It does this by its own penetrating and discerning qualities.
  - It is revealing: "a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
  - It is effectual: "quick and powerful."
  - It carries conviction and conversion.
  - It works comfort and confirmation.
  - It has power to raise us to great heights of holiness and happiness.
  - It is cutting: "Sharper than any two-edged sword." **C.H. Spurgeon**

<sup>5</sup>for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit. **1 Thessalonians 1:5-6 NASB**

- The Word came to them in power and in the Holy Spirit with full conviction.

<sup>12</sup> For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore put on God's complete armor, that you may be able to resist *and* stand your ground on the evil day [of danger], and, having done all [the crisis demands], to stand [firmly in your place]. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore [hold your ground], having tightened the belt of truth around your loins and having put on the breastplate of integrity *and* of moral rectitude *and* right standing with God,

<sup>15</sup> And having shod your feet in preparation [to face the enemy with the firm-footed stability, the promptness, and the readiness produced by the good news] of the Gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> Lift up over all the [covering] shield of saving faith, upon which you can quench all the flaming missiles of the wicked [one]. <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation and the sword that the Spirit [d]wields, which is the Word of God. <sup>18</sup> Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose *and* perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people). **Ephesians 6:12-18 AMPC**

- Take the sword of the Spirit and pray...the sword that the Spirit wields and empowers us to use...the Word of God.