

Subject: *God's Precious Truth*

Scripture: *Psalms 119:160-164*

This beloved psalm is a tribute of praise for God's Word. It is the longest chapter in the Bible and is longer than many whole books of the Bible. If you're using the read through the Bible guide you have been reading this psalm last week. Psalm 119 tells us what Scripture is, what Scripture does, and what we must do with it.

This psalm should be read in connection with ***Psalm 19:7-11***. In this message I want to focus on the truthfulness of Scripture and how that ought to affect our lives.

1. GOD'S TRUTH IS REAL

Many people in the world don't believe there is such a thing as absolute truth. Whatever is true for you may or may not be true for another person. This fits in with the worldview of tolerance and relative morality.

John 18:37-38 ³⁷ *Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.* ³⁸ *Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.*

The world asks the same question that Pilate asked Jesus. Christians answer, "We have truth in the Word of God."

John 17:17 *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15 *Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

2. GOD'S TRUTH IS VALUABLE

Psalms 119:162 *I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.*

Psalms 19:10 *More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.*

Proverbs 23:23 *Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.* Get the truth at all costs, and don't give it up for any price.

With Black Friday and Cyber Monday, a lot of buying and selling goes on this time of year. People are concerned about the price of things, but they don't the value of things. They don't consider what is really valuable.

God's truth is valuable because it is rare. There is only one book of absolute truth.

It is valuable because of its source. This is the only book that is inspired by God.

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

It is valuable because of its ability. The Bible is like seed (it produces life). It is like water (it cleanses and purifies). It is like a mirror (it reveals sin). It is like milk and meat (it gives strength and nourishment). It is like a sharp sword (it examines us internally and defends us outwardly). It is like a hammer (to bring judgment). It is like a light (to show us the way live and get to heaven).

Psalms 119:105 *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

2 Timothy 3:15 *And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

The Bible is worth more than everything else in the whole world put together.

3. GOD’S TRUTH IS AVAILABLE

God made it available to us in a language we can understand. But we have to put forth the effort to read it and study it, and ask God to help us understand it.

Psalms 119:18 *Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.*

In a recent sermon I mentioned three steps we must take to get the most from God’s Word:

- OBSERVATION – What does the text say?
- INTERPRETATION – What does the text mean?
- APPLICATION – What does the text mean to my life?

In the Bible we find truth about who God is, what He has done, is doing, and will do, about what God provides for us, and what He expects of us. It is a treasure chest of blessing.

Martin Luther said: “I have covenanted with the Lord that I would neither ask him for visions, nor for angels, nor for miracles, but I would be satisfied with his own Word, and if I may but lay hold upon Scripture by faith, that shall be enough for me.”

The Reformers and those who followed them were captivated by God’s Word. The Bible is our greatest possession and it should be our great obsession. In the introduction to his *MacArthur Study Bible*, John MacArthur writes about the time and effort that went into that project: “I have always been committed to the Scripture as inspired, inerrant, infallible, sufficient, and eternal. After this enterprise I have been profoundly enriched in my own life, as never before, because of the sheer force of so much divine truth pouring through me daily. For many months I spent eight or more hours every day working in the Word, not so much because I had to, but because I could not leave the text—its riches held me captive.”

God’s truth is real; it is valuable; and it is available. In other words, it is sufficient. God has given us a great treasure of truth. What are you doing with it? What if we don’t receive it, value it, and use it? Imagine you give a very expensive gift for someone special, but that person doesn’t seem to care. They don’t notice it, and it is obvious they don’t really think much of it at all. How would that make you feel?