

# Attributes Of God's Word

**Introduction.** In Isaiah 55:10-11, Isaiah gives several reasons why people should seek the Lord. One of the reasons is that God's word will never return to Him void, but it will always accomplish His purposes. His purpose is that all mankind be made new in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The Bible can accomplish this wonderful task because it is inspired by God and because of its particular attributes. It will certainly benefit us to study these attributes that we may have a greater knowledge of God's holy and precious will (Psalm 119:105).

## ***I. God's Word Is Powerful***

A. God's word has saving power.

1. In Romans 1:16, the word of God has the power to save because it reveals the mind of God in regards to His eternal plan of redeeming men from sin (1 Corinthians 2:10-13; Ephesians 1:3-4).
2. To those who are perishing in unbelief, the word of God is foolishness (1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24). But to those who believe, it is the wisdom of God.

B. God's word has judging power.

1. God's word is not a dead letter (Hebrews 4:11-13). It is energetic and powerful and can lay open man's heart like a surgeon can lay open the flesh.
2. It is the standard by which all of us will be judged (John 12:44-50; Romans 2:14-16).

## ***II. God's Word Is Plain***

A. God's revelation was always intended to be understood.

1. Paul stated in Ephesians 3:4 that his letter, written by inspiration, could be understood. The word "understand" means "to perceive with the mind." This is in contrast to a perception with feelings (1 John 2:20-21).
2. The word of God is to be understood through rational thought and reason, rather than everyone's "I believe" or "I think" (2 Kings 5:11; Proverbs 14:12). Since God created us with logical, rational minds, it follows that His revelation will be logical and rational.

B. Failure to understand indicates failure on our part.

1. John 7:17 says that the prerequisite to doing the Lord's will is desire. For example, did Jesus walk on the water (Matthew 14:25) or did God part the Red Sea (Exodus 14:21-22)? Those are easy to understand because we want to understand.
2. Can we not figure out the plain and simple truth on doctrinal subjects (once saved, always saved or Christ's kingdom on the Earth) or moral subjects (social drinking or immodest dress) without having some kind of slant or spin on Bible passages?

## ***III. God's Word Is Perfect***

A. It contains all we need for maturity and obedience.

1. In 2 Peter 1:3, Christians are assured that the word of God has everything which pertains to life and godliness. If we have “all things,” then God’s word by definition is perfect (Psalm 19:7; James 1:25).
  2. If God’s word is perfect, then following it will make us perfect or complete (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We need to be complete or perfect in order to be righteous in the sight of God.
- B. We cannot be guilty of altering it in anyway.
1. If the Lord’s word is perfect and complete, we cannot add to it (Deuteronomy 4:1-2; Numbers 22:18; 24:13; Galatians 3:15). If I break a covenant on Earth, I could get in a lot of trouble. People do the same to the New Testament on a regular basis and expect no punishment from God.
  2. If one does not abide in the teaching of Christ, one does not have God (John 8:31; 15:10; 1 John 2:3-6). Abiding in the teaching of Christ means remaining true to what that word commands. Achan, Uzzah, Ananias, and Sapphira all wanted to change God’s word but had to accept the terrible consequences.

#### ***IV. God’s Word Has A Pattern***

- A. God’s revelation is not a jumbled, incoherent mass of statements.
1. If God’s word is meant to reveal His mind regarding man’s redemption, does it not make sense that God would desire to communicate to us in more than a haphazard way (Acts 7:44; Hebrews 8:4-5; cp. Romans 6:17)?
  2. Statements, examples, and necessary conclusions all form the basis for God communicating with man. If you look in Exodus 25-40, God’s plans for the tabernacle were very specific. He left nothing unrevealed. The same is true of His pattern for salvation, the church, and morality.
- B. Man has always been warned not to break this pattern.
1. Man breaks the pattern by doing what God has not said, such as in the case with Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 10:1-2).
  2. When we teach that baptism is not essential to salvation, or make one church as good as another, or teach that the Holy Spirit dwells in each one of us and moves us to being saved, we are violating the pattern.

#### ***V. God’s Word Demands Practice***

- A. God’s word is not for speculation, but for practice.
1. Jesus stated in Matthew 4:4 that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.
  2. This implies that the word of God should be used for practical reasons (Hebrews 5:11-14; 1 Peter 2:2).
- B. God has revealed what is necessary for salvation.
1. Deuteronomy 29:29 states that the secret things belong to God but the revealed things belong to us that we might observe all the words of the law.
  2. Luke 6:47-49 likened hearing and action of His words to one who built a house on the rock.

**Conclusion.** The Bible is full of power and truth. It has an understandable pattern. Psalm 119:173-174 says, “Let Thy hand be ready to help me, For I have chosen Thy precepts. I long for Thy salvation, O Lord, And Thy law is my delight.”