

The Eternal Word

Introduction. A word is defined as “the sign of an idea.” Words, taken together in their logical and grammatical connections, constitute the intelligible expression of thought from one mind to another. A word separates man from the lower creatures of earth, and makes him a being of heavenly origin and destiny.

The word of God is the expression of infinite thought to mankind in terms of human comprehension. The sin of this age is indifference to, neglect of, and disrespect for the word of God. People trifle with it at will, not knowing that it is heaven’s eternal power (Matthew 24:35). The purpose of this sermon is to create respect for, and deepen faith in, God’s word.

I. ***The World Was Created And Is Sustained By The Word Of God***

- A. Scientists and philosophers have speculated about the beginning of the universe, but science is out of place in trying to solve the problem of origins. It is the business of science to tell us how everything operates, not how it began.
- B. Creation is defined as the act of God by which He made the universe without the use of preexisting materials. The Bible does not teach creation without a first cause (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1).
 - 1. The clause, “And God said,” is found eight times in Genesis 1 in relation to creation (vss. 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26).
 - 2. The scriptures affirm that what exists was not formed out of preexisting matter, but was spoken into existence (Psalm 33:6-9; 148:5; Hebrews 11:3).
- C. Furthermore, the world is sustained by the same word. What lies behind the universe’s order and precision, its wonderful succession of natural causes and effects? God does (Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3).

II. ***Jesus Was The Embodiment Of The Word Of God***

- A. Jesus was the “word” inwardly in that He has existed from all eternity “in the bosom of the Father” (John 1:14, 18).
 - 1. The manger of Bethlehem was not the place of Christ’s beginning (Micah 5:1-2; John 8:58; 17:5; Colossians 1:16).
 - 2. What really happened at Bethlehem was that a preexistent Being took upon Himself a new order of being (1 Timothy 3:16).
- B. Jesus was the “word” outwardly in that it was His specific mission to reveal the Father (John 14:9-10). He was the “image” of God’s essence (Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:15).
- C. The Greek for “word” is *logos* which literally means, “to pick words in order to express one’s thoughts.” It speaks of a word uttered by the human voice which embodies a conception or an idea.

1. Jewish and Greek philosophers spoke of a mediator between God and man as the *logos*. John tells them that this unknown mediator is our Lord (cf. Acts 17:23).
2. Our Lord is the *logos* of God in the sense that He is the essence of God. He is deity speaking, not in parts of speech as in a sentence composed of words, but in the human life of a divine Person.
3. He is the creating, directing, and guiding power of God. He is the medium by which God promulgates His will and issues His commandments. He is the revealer of God's wisdom and power.

III. ***Miracles Were Performed By Speaking The Word Of God***

- A. There must be within an incident a supernatural element before there is a miracle, and any incident that can be explained completely by natural laws is not a miracle.
- B. The supernatural element necessary to the performance of a miracle is the word of God (cf. Matthew 8:8).
 1. Christ performed miracles by His word (Matthew 8:3, 13, 26, 32; Mark 1:25; Luke 7:14; John 11:43).
 2. The apostles were given the power to work miracles (Matthew 10:1; Luke 10:9; Mark 16:17-20). They then performed them by the power of the word (Acts 2:4; 3:6; 5:5, 10, 15-16; 8:6-7; 9:18, 34, 40; 13:9-11; 14:10; 16:18; 28:8-9; 2 Corinthians 12:12).

IV. ***The Word Of God Is Now Contained In The Bible***

- A. The scriptures emphasize their origin from God from the very beginning. The phrase "word of the Lord" occurs 245 times in the Old Testament and "saith the Lord" occurs 841 times.
- B. Jesus dispatched the inspired word of God to His apostles on the day of Pentecost through the Holy Spirit. This was according to promise (Luke 24:49; John 16:7-15).
 1. The apostles spoke with tongues as the Spirit gave them the ability, thus proving the effectiveness of the promise (Acts 2:4).
 2. The apostles, in turn, embodied the word of God in the New Testament scriptures (1 Corinthians 2:6-13; 14:37; Galatians 1:6-12; Ephesians 6:17; Revelation 22:18-19).
- C. The gospel, written or preached, is the power of God unto salvation in the present dispensation (Romans 1:16; Hebrews 4:12; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:22-23).
 1. In every recorded case of conversion there is specific mention of the gospel being preached (Acts 2:14-37; 8:5-12, 30-35; 9:6; 10:34-43; 11:14; 16:14, 32; 18:8).

2. Words are meant to be communicated, and the word, written or spoken, makes believers (Luke 8:11; John 2:22; 6:63; 17:20; 20:30-31).

D. People have so much confidence in every gimmick imaginable, but not in the word (1 Corinthians 1:21).

Conclusion. The effect of a word is potent and long-lasting. The word of God can be resisted and neglected (Romans 13:2; Hebrews 2:3), but it also produce a blessing on all who hear and obey it (Luke 11:28). Our yearning is for you is to experience the blessedness of a righteous relationship with God.