



Lion Ministries International & The Lion Group

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

(A Series of Studies for the New Believer of the Christian Faith)

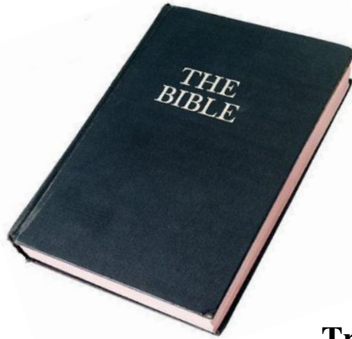
By

Dr. David Lion. Ph.D., D.S.L.h.c.

GOD'S WONDERFUL WORD

(Lesson #2)

Note: Scriptures are quoted from various Bible versions for the sake of clarity in communication.



The Bible

The Bible, also known as “*God’s Word*” or “*The Word*,” is more than a mere collection of thoughts put together by man to formulate a book.

In fact, it is not even a single Book but rather it is a collection of Books, some 66 in all. There are 39 Old Testament Books and 27 New Testament Books.

It shares a number of Authors all with a single “*Inspiration*”* (**you’ll learn more about why this word is important in just a little bit*) given to them from God. People such as Kings, Shepherds, Prophets, Physicians, Tradesmen, Politicians, and even Slaves were used by God to record God’s words and bring us “*The Book*”, or “*The Bible*” which you now possess.

It’s Inspiration & Authors

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God...”

- 2nd Timothy 3:16

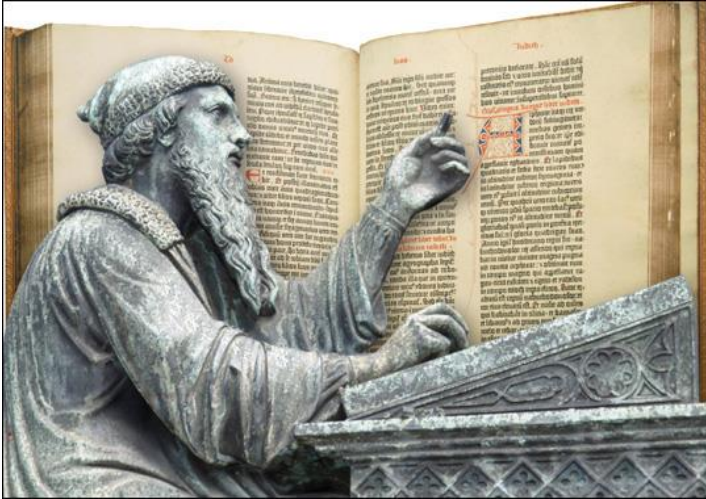
The Bible was “*Inspired*”* or originated by God. We read where God spoke to Adam, Cain, Enoch, Noah, Abraham and others. These men communicated God’s word by word of mouth to others because writing had not yet been invented.

Moses was the first Author of Scripture with whom **Numbers 12:8** says God spoke “**Mouth to mouth, even apparently and not in dark speeches**” to him. Moses then wrote the first 5 Books of the Bible (which included the Ten Commandments given by God).

These writings have been called the “*The Pentateuch*” or the “*Law of Moses*”.

The Jews call these Old Testament writings the “*Torah*” which Translated means “*The Law*”.





Other Authors of the Bible who were equally inspired of God to contribute to the compiling of God's Word were Individuals of the Prophetic line such as Samuel, Ezekiel and Joel just to name a few. Israel's Judges such as Esther, Ruth, and 13 others also contributed to provide us with additions to the first 5 Books such as the 12 Books of History, the 5 Books of Poetry, the 5 Major Prophetic Books, and the 12 Minor Prophetic Books which combined total 39 Books in the Old Testament.

In the New Testament Authors included Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Timothy, Peter and others bringing us up to the time period of 100 A.D. (*After Death, meaning the Death of Jesus). These Individuals as well as others Authored the 27 New Testament Books making a total of 66 Books to comprise the entire "Book" called "The Bible".

Inspiration - God-Breathed

As stated earlier **II Timothy 3:16** tells us that "All scriptures is given by **Inspiration*" of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

"Inspired* by God" literally means **God Breathed*" and is from the Greek word "**Theopneustos**". It's Hebrew counterparts are found in **Genesis Chapter 1** when "God breathed" the spoken word and creation came into being, and when God formed man out of the dust of the ground and "God breathed" into man the breath of life, and through that "*Inspiration*"* – *Breath of God, man became a living soul, just as God's Words becomes alive in us as we read them in His Book called – The Bible.

The Preservation of God's Unchanging Word

The record of God's word has remained unchanged down through the centuries. The most convincing proof that the wonderful word of God remains preserved is found in the riches of the Bible itself for in the Book of **Matthew Chapter 5** verse **18** Jesus said...

"For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one Jot* or one Title* (*dotted "i" or crossed "t") shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." – Matthew 5:18

The Law here does not refer to the Ten Commandments nor to the Pentateuch of Moses (*First Five Books of the Bible or The Law*), but to the whole revealed word of God.

In another Series of Teachings available by Dr. Lion (*The Inerrancy of Scripture*) you will be shown how God has preserved the infallibility of His word over time through a study into...

- #1. The Scriptures Themselves. #2. Miraculous Survival. #3, The Confirmation of Science.
- #4. The Process of Translation. #5. Prophetic Proofs. #6. The Dead Sea Scrolls. #7. Eyewitness Accounts
- #8. The Historicity of Jesus. #9. Archeological Discoveries. #10. Divine Design and,
- #11. The Testimonies of Great World Figures.



Having completed this study, you will have seen that it is undeniably evident that God has watched over His Word to keep it accurate for you so that you might have a Foundation for which to build your life upon.

The main reason people doubt God's ability to preserve His words, is in because they first question the Bible's very "Inspiration" or Origin being God Himself.

God has declared the preservation of His word to us in **Matthew 24:35 (ASV)**

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

The Word Cannot Return Void or Unproductive

That same creative expression and inspiration which "God breathed" in creating His word, is presently still at work still watching over the word in order to make sure it remains.

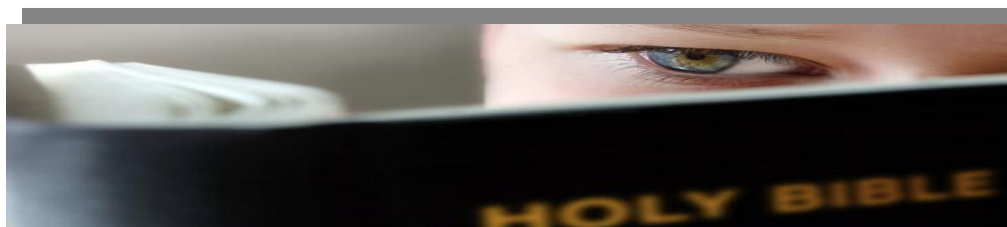
Isaiah 55:11 tells us...

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing where to I sent it."

The Power of the Word

Hebrews 4:12 says...

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."



Notice: It did not say "The word of God has quickness, or that it has power" but it said, **"The word of God is quick* and it is powerful."**

***Quick:** is the Greek word - *ZA'-o* which interpreted could better be translated as **"To live or to have life"**. Therefore, a better interpretation which the Translators of early Elizabethan English could have chosen to interpret as **"quicken"** could have been **"alive"** making this passage of scripture able to correctly also read as... **"The word of God is alive."** Remember Jesus even said **"My words are Spirit and they are (or have or contain) Life"** – **John 6:63.**

Being alive, just as any living being, the word of God therefore has certain capacities, functions and even limitations which must be noted.

People can be either good people or bad people depending on their disposition and determination.

II Kings 20:19 conveys to us the nature of God's word stating, **"Good is the word of the Lord."**

God's word is good! God's word will bless you and it will simplify your life.

The Word of God, the Bible, is the Christian's Standard for Right and Wrong and **Psalm 13:4** substantiates this for us by declaring **"The word of the Lord is right."**

The Word of God sets for us as Christians a standard. It can be the cause of your convictions and the course for your life conduct.

The word of God has the capacity to provide hope amidst your hopeless situations.

Psalm 130:5 says **"I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope."**

Psalm 119:105 says God's word is **"A lamp unto our feet."** and **verse 116** says **"It shall uphold me."**

Psalm 119: Verse 133 says **"God's word will order our steps."**
Verse 148 says **"God's word is good for meditation."**
Verse 162 says **"God's word will cause us to rejoice."**
Verse 170 says **"God's word will deliver you."**

The Word Brings Life

God's word will heal you **Psalm 107:20** says **"He sent His word and healed them."**

Psalm 119:25 & 50 says **"God's word will quicken* you."** That is, to cause you to come ***alive**.

Isaiah 30:21 says God's word will speak to us.

Jeremiah 20:9 says God's word will ignite our hearts and in **Chapter 23 of Jeremiah vs. 29** God said **"Is not my word like a fire."**

Psalm 119:89 says, **"Thy word is settled in heaven."**

Isaiah 40:8 God's word **"Will stand forever."**

These are but a minute few of the creative capabilities that the wonderful word of God has available for your life. The word of God as stated earlier is the power source of God that makes it all possible, but **... how does it all work?**



The Work of the Word

Let's find out as we return to our text having viewed just a sampling of what the word of God's power can do in our life.

Remember we said of **Hebrews 4:12** that **"The word of God is both quick* (that is *'alive')"** and that it is **"powerful."**

The **Greek** word for **"Powerful"** used here is **En-Er-Gace** meaning **"Active and Operative."**

Its **Greek** root is **Er-gon** meaning **"To work with effort as one would in an occupation."**

So you see we could rightfully read this passage of scripture as...

"The word of God is alive, and is actively operating, and putting forth an effort (or power) even as one would in their occupation."

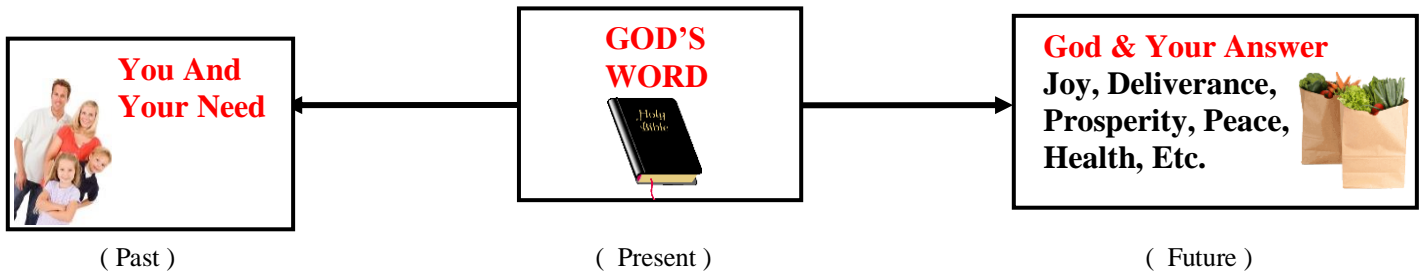
But what is it putting forth an effort for and how is it actively doing this ?

This can be understood by understanding the primary preposition of the word **"EN"** in the Greek word **"En-er-gace"** which was our Greek word translated into Elizabethan English for **"Powerful"**.

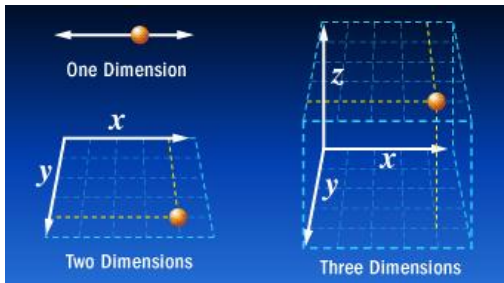
"En" speaks of a position in * **Place**
 * **Time**
 And in * **State**



Now this is very important to remember because the word is referred to here as being an “Intermediary” or an “Instrument” between 2 things.



So, from this illustration we can see how God's word takes the place (*in your present state of time*) between you and your need (*which was derived from your past state in time*) and God and His answer (*which resides within in your future state in time*) as it works to bring you from your past to your future.



Note: In another lesson we can delve deeper into the understanding of how God's word and prayer each contain the capacity to transcend time, distance and dimension. For the present let it suffice to say that God's word serves as an intermediary which works to orchestrate your past and present state of need with your future state of blessing as conveyed to us by the promises (*better yet the guarantees*) of God's word.

Where we read that “**The word is quick and powerful**” we can now more fully understand that God's word is alive (*just as much as God is alive*) and that it is actively operating, that is it is putting forth a power to produce in your life just as much (*and more so*) as any individual would be by putting forth an effort within their occupation in order to produce a product or a result.

This is all taking place in order to bring you and your need together with God's word and its answer so as to positively affect your present and future state in life.

God is so good, and His word is so truly amazing.

It is no wonder that we must decide to implement the power of God's word inn our lives when looking to see our needs met, and when framing our futures when one considers **Hebrews 1:3** which states that “**He created all things by the word of His power.**”

Why didn't this say, “By the power of His word”?

Because it is always by putting the word of God first in our lives (*In our heads, in our hearts, in our conversation and in our corresponding actions*) that the power of God will then be released to bring the promises from scripture into existence within our life.

Receive the Word Before the Power of the Word

Now this may sound like splitting hairs, but too many people want to see the power of God bail them out of their predicament, but they don't want to take the time to build upon the rock of revelation that is the word of God to potentially avoid the problems in the first place.

God has an order which is the word first, then the power to substantiate that word, time, and then the manifestation of the promise.

“**The Lord working with them confirmed the word with signs following.**”

- Mark 16:20b

The word of God always precedes the power of God – that power which propels the future answer into our present need.

Let's take a quick look now as to how we may make the power of His word or the word of His power operable in our lives.

Receive the Word with a Ready Mind

Realize that how you receive the word of God

- In your daily Bible reading
- In Church Services
- In Life situations

Will determine the degree to which that word can stand as

- A Go Between
- An Intercessor
- A Bridge

Between you and your needs and God and His answers.



The wrong way to respond to the word of God is described for us in **Hebrews 4:2...**

“For unto us was the gospel preached as well as unto them but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.”

The right way for us to respond to God's word is found in **Acts 17:11** which conveys ...

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Our Attitude towards the word, and how we respond in our words and in our actions towards God word will determine the effect that the word of God will have in our lives.

Meditate on the Word

It is not enough to merely hear the word and initially receive it with a good attitude.

We must as **Colossians 3:16** says **“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”**

Meditate/Contemplate/ Think about the word!

Let it become alive in you! Let it create a new reality for you based on truth – truth that is founded on the word of God and His power.

- After receiving the word with a ready mind,
- After checking it out so it becomes your reality and not just a second hand received revelation,
- After meditating and speaking it to yourself, then thinking upon it as often as you can- Letting the word of God dwell in you, grow truth within you.
- Then finally, as **Matthew 8:8a** says you go forth and **“Speak the word only.”**

Speak the Word Of God

Why do we only want to speak God's word?

Because **Proverbs 18:21** says **“Life and death are in the power of the tongue.”**

What you say in life is vital! You are today the product of your past speaking.

You will be tomorrow the product of your speaking today. The power of God is released in words – faith filled words.

Genesis 1 says **“God said – and it was so.”**

God's word provides us with words of faith – The Bible is our source for this God type of faith.

Romans 10:17 says **“Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God”.**

So the power of God is released when you speak the word of God in faith!

SUMMARY/CONCLUSION



Let us now conclude by briefly summarizing what we have discovered regarding the word of God's power or the power of God's word.

First, we noted many but yet just a few of the things that the power of God' wonderful word will do for us.

Secondly, we observed how the word is alive, and that it positions itself between our need and God's answer, and it goes to work to bring the two together.

Thirdly, we establish that the word of God always precedes the power of God and that's why **Hebrew 1:3** calls it **“The word of His power.”**

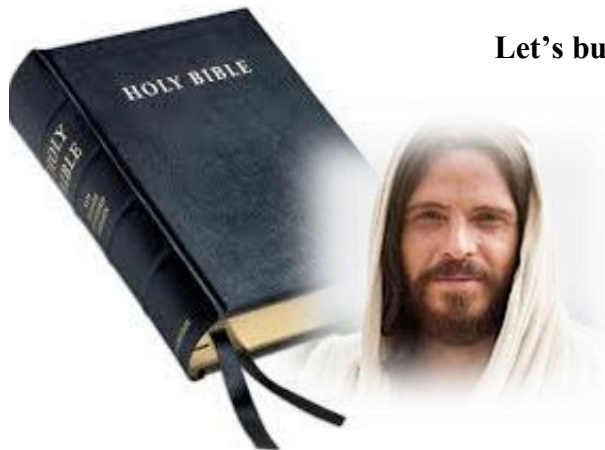
Fourthly, we saw how we may make the power of God's word or the word of His power operable in our life.

- A. Receive the word with a ready mind that is teachable, open, and expectant.
- B. Check it out for yourself – get your head and heart revelation on the matter.
- C. Meditate on the words of God's promises.
- D. Speak the word of God over your life and situation even if it is contrary to your present state.
- E. Finally, provide corresponding actions in line with what you are believing and speaking in order to release God's power (**Mark 16:20**) in your life to bring about the promises of God's word.

God's Wonderful Word is the very being of our Christian existence, our life, and source of faith for victorious Christian living.

Let's make every effort to study it and to apply its truths.

Jesus said in **John 8:31-32** **“ If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**



Let's build our lives on the wonderful word of God and let's help others to also discover the victorious walk to be found in personal relationship with Christ Jesus as well.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(Lesson #2 of 6)

- PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING TRUE OR FALSE AND MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS.
- THERE IS ONLY ONE RIGHT ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION BASED UPON YOUR LESSON.
- YOU MAY REFER TO YOUR LESSON FOR ASSISTANCE IN ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS.

(1). **The Bible is a collection of books.**

- True. False.

(2). **There are 39 Old Testament Books and 27 New Testament Books.**

- True. False.

(3). **The Bible was written by several different Authors all of whom were inspired by God.**

- True. False.

(4). **Inspired means God breathed / God directed.**

- True. False.

(5). **The word of God is alive and therefore can give life to us spiritually.**

- True. False.

(6). **A Jot and a Tittle refers to...**

- A. Big concepts to be found in God's word.
- B. The dot on the letter "i" and the crossing of the letter "t".
- C. None of the above.

(7). **The word of God can...**

- A. Be full of error
- B. Not apply to our life.
- C. Act as a bridge between us with our need and God with His answer,

(8). **One should receive God's word with...**

- A. A ready mind.
- B. Caution.
- C. Not at all.

(9). **As one meditates or thinks about God's word it will...**

- A. Cause God's word to come alive in us.
- B. Cause us to form new ways of thinking, speaking and living.
- C. All of the above.

(10). **Speaking God's word in faith will...**

- A. Be a waste of time and energy.
- B. Release the power of God into our life.
- C. Make the Devil happy.