1Thess #84

The Believer can only advance by handling the WORD accurately.

Please keep Pastor Bob in prayer as many of you know he had a difficult diagnosis last week. I spoke with Samantha and Charlie recently and they tell me he is in good spirits.

Also keep our brother Jason in prayer he has been filling in at GBC teaching and doing a great job!

We will be opening up in 2Peter chapter one.

Our recent set of studies are taken from 1Thessalonians chapter four;

/1Thes 4:11 and to **make it your ambition to lead a quiet life** and **attend to your own *business*** and work with your hands, just as we instructed you, 12 so that **you will behave properly toward outsiders**  and not be in any need.\

The Apostle Paul was getting into a reprimand. Not only a correction but a warning for Bels sliding backward into sexual lust patterns but also falling into false doctrine and lazy attitudes.

The Apostle Paul was not alone in this type of reprimand and warning. The other apostles also were dealing with the same issues.

Bels today or two thousand years ago have to realize the veracity of God’s word. Bible doctrine is more real than empirical knowledge, emotional knowledge or scientific and human knowledge on any level —

When a Believer continues to take in doctrine it becomes more real to him than anything else.

With this divine viewpoint the Bel is motivated for everything in life for which God designed for our temporal walk.

This was written at the end of Peter’s life he was facing dying grace – completely content and facing execution for his belief and teachings. The Apostle Peter died in Rome, by crucifixion, during the persecution of Nero in AD 64. As for his crucifixion being upside down, many scholars agree that it was something Peter requested.

How exactly true, is the upside down crucifixion, remains a hot topic of debate even today.

/2Pe 1:12 **Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you** of these things, even though you *already* know *them* and **have been established in the truth** which is present with *you.*

Repetition is what Jesus taught the Apostles – for 3 years they were told doctrines over and over again, sometimes with new angles or stories but always TRUTH repetitively.\

The Greek present tense telling us the Apostle Peter was always willing to repeat truth.

Bels that hate repetition, often become Bels that habitually seek new teachers or peel away from Bible study altogether.

[2Pe 1:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/13/s_1157013) I consider it right, as long as I am in this *earthly* dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder,

One of the signs of dying grace is that a Bel is content and ready to face the Lord. Also, that they are willing to keep preaching the gospel to the very end.

/[2Pe 1:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/14/s_1157014) knowing that **the laying aside of my *earthly* dwelling**(*skēnōma*)**is imminent**, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.

My earthly tabernacle has run its course. Understanding the plan of God means fear of death no longer holds great power over your life.\

SKAY-NU-MA- meant a tent or covering in the spiritual and natural realm.

As the Apostle Paul told the church at Corinth – *‘O death where is your victory…O death where is your sting?!’*

SM Bels have decimated the fear of death by being in union with Christ habitually throughout their life.

[2Pe 1:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/15/s_1157015) And I will also be diligent that at any time after my departure you will be able to call these things to mind.

This is an eyewitness speaking, remember the Apostle Peter and the original 11 apostles were there when hundreds or even thousands of people witnessed TLJC in person – before and after His resurrection!

[2Pe 1:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/16/s_1157016) For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

/[2Pe 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/17/s_1157017) For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such a declaration as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory: “***This is My beloved Son with whom I am well pleased”—***

In the mount of transfiguration Peter was there and Christ was transformed on the mountain. And he saw Christ as He would be at the second advent. \

[2Pe 1:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/18/s_1157018) and we ourselves heard this declaration made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

Peter, James and John stood and witnessed this up close and personal.

/[2Pe 1:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/19/s_1157019) And *so* **we have the prophetic word *made* more sure**, to which **you do well to pay attention** as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

The Greek present tense, telling us we keep on having the WORD, it keeps pressing forward and that it is the only truth worth repeatedly paying attention too.\

*To be made more sure* - is related to the certainty of the WORD of God – nothing has more strength or validity behind it then what Peter is saying.

The Apostle Peter is making an absolute statement of the word of GOD and the depth of accuracy within the WORD.

 REPEAT

How this is written in the original context is that Peter is stating - The Bible is more real than what we see, hear, taste or feel, then it must have an absolute source. This absolute source is highlighted here in what the Apostle Peter is saying, in one of his last breaths before dying.

/[2Pe 1:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/20/s_1157020) *But* know this first *of all,* that **no prophecy of Scripture** becomes *a matter* of *someone’s* **own interpretation**,

No human imagination, religious dogma or false teaching was involved in the completed canon of scripture. Starting with the whole of the OT into the finished book of Revelation. \

The plan of God is revealed in scripture which is the life, death, burial and resurrection, then ascension and session of Jesus Christ.

It is HIS story in every detail. It is a love story for a fallen creation and it is a guide and plan from the ONE who loved us enough to die for us.

/[2Pe 1:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2pe/1/21/s_1157021) for no prophecy was ever made **by an act of human will**, but **men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**

All scripture is God-breathed because it reflects the exact mind of Jesus Christ. God the Father laid the plan out, Christ implemented that plan and the HS empowers it. \

The plan of God is advanced and vindicated through Bible doctrine — God the Father in eternity past appointed Jesus Christ the mission of eternal salvation for the human race.

When TLJC was on the cross bearing our sins and taking our place that mission was accomplished;

/Isa 53:10 But the LORD desired
To crush Him, causing *Him* grief;
If **He renders Himself *as* a guilt offering**,
He will see *His* offspring, He will
prolong *His* days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.

The suffering servant in Isa 53, tells us that the plan of God was always coming to fruition. \

The Lord Jesus Christ offered all of us eternal salvation. “*He shall see his offspring (seed)*” — refers to the royal family of the Church Age — “*he shall prolong his days*” — the nation of Israel will be extended — “*The plan of Jehovah the Father shall advance by his hand*.” The plan of God advances through the Lord Jesus Christ.

 REPEAT

Jump over to Romans chapter 3 RF.

The plan of GOD was completed in eternity past - we can do nothing against it.

We can only climb on board with it!

The plan of God advances today because Jesus Christ has given to us the essence of HIS mind - Bible doctrine.

Once saved always saved – if the Bel claims unbelief after salvation, that cannot remove eternal security. It is unbelief before salvation that is the issue.

If a Bel denies the Lord or says I no longer believe, does that cancel anything? …No! God remains faithful no matter what our instabilities may be in life.

Rom 3:1 Then what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the benefit of circumcision?

/[Rom 3:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/3/2/s_1049002) Great in every respect. First, that **they were entrusted with the actual words of God**.

The nation of Israel was God’s chosen race in charge of evangelizing and preserving the accuracy of the WORD.\

Circumcision for the nation of Israel was extremely important – the Jewish bloodline holds prophetic value; all of this can never be overlooked in the grand scheme of the plan of God.

God created the nation of Israel as a new race – a shadow of the CA Bel, a reference to what happens when we believe upon Christ. The circumcision was the analogy of the OSN getting nailed to the cross at salvation.

Every dispensation plays an intricate role in God’s plan.

/[Rom 3:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/3/3/s_1049003) What then? **If some did not believe**, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it?

Someone who rejects Christ does not change the power or plan of God. Rejection of Christ before salvation is the unpardonable sin – rejection of Christ after salvation brings misery and loss of rewards. Either way God’s plan (BD) marches forward. \

***IF*** - is the Greek first class condition, meaning it is a true statement – some did not believe and some rejected God’s plan after salvation as well.

[Rom 3:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/3/4/s_1049004) Far from it! Rather, God must prove to be true, though every person *be found* a liar, as it is written:
“SO THAT YOU ARE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED.”

The Apostle Paul is pulling together OT scriptures such as Psa 116:11 and Psa 119:160 as well as Job 40:8.

One great teacher wrote this about Romans 3:3 and 4;

/ “It is a strange, strong expression; but it is none too strong. If God says one thing, and every man in the world says another, God is true, and all men are false. God speaks the truth, and cannot lie. God cannot change; His word, like Himself, is immutable. We are to believe God’s truth if nobody else believes it. The general consensus of opinion is nothing to a Christian. He believes God’s word, and he thinks more of that than of the universal opinion of men.”

 *Charles Spurgeon \*

[Rom 3:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/3/5/s_1049005) But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? The God who inflicts wrath is not unrighteous, is He? (I am speaking from a human viewpoint.)

/[Rom 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/3/6/s_1049006) Far from it! For *otherwise*, **how will God judge the world?**

If God’s word and His plan are lacking in any realm, how can HE be the creator and judge over all of us? \

The plan of God for this lost and dying world was that HIS precious SON would complete the preordained plan for salvation upon that cross.

After Jesus Christ rose from the dead and taught mystery doctrine and established HIS physical presence for 40 days - He ascended back to the heavens. Jesus Christ, in HIS humanity, sat down (session) at the right hand of divine royalty to complete the mission.

HIS mind (BD) would be left behind for the completion of the angelic conflict which will culminate in the Tribulation period after the Rapture.

There is no simpler explanation for the truth of our Bible than that!

Those who reject truth do not stop it from its completed course and final goal.

Those who reject the truth of TLJC and HIS word receive the just penalties in the end;

For the Bel who rejects truth they will reap what they sow – for the Unbel it is everlasting torment.

/It is lack of doctrine destroys a nation —

Hos 4:6 **My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge**. Since you have **rejected knowledge**, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the Law of your God, I also will forget your children.

Bels can never lose their salvation but due to willful ignorance they bring misery upon themselves and those in their periphery. \

The OT had prophets and priests to uphold the teaching of God’s word and in the CA dispensation we have pastors and evangelists.

That is the grand design of God and it has to be respected and continued until the 2nd advent.

The main communicator of Bible doctrine authorized for the Church Age is the pastor-teacher — Eph 4:11-13; Col 1:25-29; Heb 13:7-17 all speak to this portion of God’s plan along with a dozen other scriptures;

/Eph 4:11 And **He gave some as apostles, some *as* prophets, some *as* evangelists, some *as* pastors and teachers**, 12 for the **equipping of the saints** for the work of ministry, **for the building up** of the body of Christ;

Prophecy was done away with sometime on or before 95 A.D. when the completed canon of scripture was in its final phase.\

For the CA dispensation it is the mind of Christ that we rely upon for discernment.

We study the word and align it with historic events and it gives us a view to future events.

Just as water baptism was important in the early formation of the church so to was prophecy.

The gift of prophecy in the early CA was to establish the teaching for the Apostles in their mission of completing the Bible.

The accuracy in handling the word is given to the pastor-teacher under many grace gifts that GOD ordained from eternity past. The Apostles and serious disciples of Christ knew this and that is why, as they completed the canon of scripture, they were at the same time establishing churches with evangelists and pastors at the helm.

/Heb 13:9 **Do not be misled by varied and strange teachings;** for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

Without accurate Bible doctrine in the soul and only the filling of the Spirit you have unbalance and this must be rectified. \

It is rectified by absorbing correct doctrine in the soul — giving a balance of residency in the soul structure.

/Bible doctrine is transferred from the written page of the Word of God to the soul of the Believer under the function of GAP. Grace Apparatus of the Soul – within God’s grace plan was that God the HS would work with the positive Bel to metabolize BD. Part of that grace plan includes and is dependent upon, accurate teaching (pastor-teachers with the gift). The Trinity is at work within every aspect of God’s grace plan. \

It still consists of a positive Bel with an attitude that allows time and space for the teaching of God’s word. That Bel has to use their free will to not only be available but positive toward the word.

That means that there is a communicator authorized within God’s grace plan for all Bels. That means that when this doctrine is communicated under the ministry of the Holy Spirit it becomes resident in the left lobe.

/BD received in the left lobe means positive volition is active. That doctrine won’t filter into the right lobe and become permanent without God’s grace apparatus working in conjunction with the positive Bel. So, hearing the Word is the first stage, stage two only is activated by the filling power of God the HS working with a positive Bel who is reflecting the nature of Jesus Christ. This nullifies human I.Q. and places the Bel into a spiritual level or spiritual I.Q.\

Transferring it over is a grace function, but the point is that the doctrine you use is the doctrine you have transferred to the right lobe of your soul.

We call that a grace apparatus for perception because regardless of your human IQ - God has provided at the point of salvation a system, an apparatus of the soul, whereby you can understand doctrine. Your human IQ is never an issue.

/The Grace Apparatus of the Soul (GAP) when habitually activated and fed properly will build a doctrinal library (Edification Complex of the Soul - ECS) which is your foundational structure for growth. Just as within salvation, God the HS does the work of Efficacious Grace. There is a conjunction point, even on a miniscule scale, for positive volition of the person to ignite the divine work. \