

GROWING IN GOD'S WORD
#SermonGod'sWord
Growing God's Way Part 9
Dr. Mark Jackson, October 29, 2017
2 Peter 3:1-7

Three Keys To Growing In God's Word

1. REMEMBER ITS PURPOSE (vs 1-2)

2 Peter 3:1-2 Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. ² I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles. (NIV)

Romans 13:11-14 But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. ¹² The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. ¹³ We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. ¹⁴ Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about! (MSG)

What God's Word Can Do

- God's word can REVIVE us (vs 1)

Psalms 119:25 I am completely discouraged—I lie in the dust. Revive me by your Word. (LB)

- God's word can REMIND us (vs 2)

Colossians 3:16 Remember what Christ taught, and let his words enrich your lives and make you wise... (LB)

2. UNDERSTAND ITS PROMISES (vs 3-4)

2 Peter 3:3-4 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴ They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." (NIV)

Psalms 12:6 The Lord's promise is sure. He speaks no careless word; all he says is purest truth, like silver seven times refined. (LB)

Two Things We Need To Understand

- The coming of SCOFFERS (vs 3)

Romans 14:12 All of us will have to give an account of ourselves to God. (GW)

- The coming of JESUS (vs 4)

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold on firmly to the hope we profess, because we can trust God to keep

his promise. (TEV)

3. ACCEPT ITS POWER (vs 5-7)

2 Peter 3:5-7 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶ By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷ By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. (NIV)

Luke 1:37 For no word from God shall be void of power. (ASV)

Isaiah 55:11 My word, which comes from my mouth, is like the rain and snow. It will not come back to me without results. It will accomplish whatever I want and achieve whatever I send it to do. (GW)

Two Examples

- What God did in THE PAST (vs 5-6)

Hebrews 11:3a By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God... (ESV)

- What God will do in THE FUTURE (vs 7)

Malachi 4:1 "Watch now," the Lord Almighty declares, "the day of judgment is coming, burning like a furnace. The proud and wicked will be burned up like straw; like a tree, they will be consumed—roots and all. (LB)

John 3:16-18 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (NASB)

James 1:21 ...humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls. (NLT)