

The Word of God

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”~ Hebrews 4:12

The world needs the Bible, and the God who speaks in it. They must listen before it is too late.

It was not written as a piece of literature, but it is one of the finest collections of prose ever written.

It was not written as a history book, but it is indeed a history of God’s people.

It was not conceived as a manual for life, even though it is absolutely the finest.

The Bible is a book of faith, about faith of believers, and shows them how they can find a life they never thought possible. It is meant to be read, memorized, and followed by Christians, and if that happens, it will transform the world.

Ronald Reagan, a Hollywood actor who was a Christian and president of these United States for a time, believed this. On a regular basis he quoted God’s word, because he knew what it would do. “Within the covers of the Bible,” he wrote, “are the answers for all the problems men face.”

One might say that is too broad a statement. And the one who said that would be wrong. We must believe it, understand it, and live it as it is meant to be read.

“The Bible is very easy to understand. But we Christians are a bunch of scheming swindlers. We pretend to be unable to understand it because we know very well that the minute we understand, we are obliged to act accordingly.”~Søren Kierkegaard

The potential of the word of God, the Holy Bible, is as close to us as the nearest copy to where you sit right now. Pick it up. Find a translation which suits you. And resolve to be a tree of life which grows to unbelievable proportions.

“Blessed is the one,” the Bible says, “who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever he does shall prosper.” Psalm 1:1-3

Doesn’t that sound like the greatest need of our society right now? Where folks mock one another on the street, on television, and on social media is all around us? The more we meditate on God’s word, and learn of outdated concepts like love, forgiveness, and friendship, the more

our society will be considerate of one another, and the more we will be glad to be a part of that world.

Charles Spurgeon, a great preacher of our present day knows that need. “Why is it,” he asks, “that some Christians, ...make but slow advances in the divine life? Because they ... do not thoughtfully meditate on God’s Word. ...They would have the corn, but they will not go forth into the fields to gather it; the fruit hangs upon the tree, but they will not pluck it; the water flows at their feet, but they will not stoop to drink it.”— Charles H. Spurgeon

It is not the fault of others that we do not grow and present a good witness to others. It is because we fail to read enough scripture to know that it is about how God works in us, that we are a crop always planted and growing, a tree destined to grow into a forest, a house which must grow to city-wide proportions.

We must give people reason to celebrate us and the God we love, not reason to run from who we are. We must change, grow, be transformed by the living God who wrote the Bible and walks with us on a daily basis. It is not the information that we seek so much but the transformation of all that we are which it makes possible.

Look at it from the perspective of a holy person outside the Christian faith. “You Christians look after a document containing enough dynamite to blow all civilization to pieces, turn the world upside down and bring peace to a battle-torn planet. But you treat it as though it is nothing more than a piece of literature.”~Mahatma Gandhi

Let us so read the Bible, dear reader, that we are a vibrant witness to the miraculous things that God can do. Then, and only then, can God show others that we are his family.

“The Holy Scriptures are our letters from home.”~ Augustine of Hippo