

## THEME: Word – The Scriptures Belong To God

Luke 21:33

*"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away."*

1 Peter 1:24-25

*For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS.  
THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,  
BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER."  
And this is the word which was preached to you.*

We live in an age of indifference to the fact that the Bible, the Word of God belongs to God. Very little thought is given when such phrase as, "What does this verse mean to you" are used in studying the Bible. Gone are the days when men asked humbly in their study of the Bible, "What is God's Word saying to His church in this verse?" The 21<sup>st</sup> century man does not view himself as a steward of a Bible which belongs to God and not to man. Rather he takes immense freedom with interpreting, contextualizing and paraphrasing the Bible without the least thought of God's reaction to these liberties. Even Evangelicals have come to view God's Word as a book once written ages ago by God but long sense having passed into the ownership of man. Modern evangelicals view the history of the Bible as the history of man using the Bible rather than the history of God using man.

The historical view of the Council of Nicaea is a good example. The history of the Bible, as presented by man is one of constant adulterations and changes over the ages. Of men doing their best to preserve that which God the Holy Spirit has neglected. Here even conservative evangelicals will say that this council decided what was and was not the Word of God. Of course nothing could be further from the truth. God's Word belongs to exclusively to God, He decides what is and what is not the Word of God. True He may use man but it is always that, God using man. He may use man in bringing others to salvation, He may use man in building up His church, He may use man in completing prophecies which usher in the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, but at no time is man in control of these decisions, God uses man, man does not use God. It is the same way with God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word, God may use man in preserving, writing and distributing His Word, the Bible, but at no time does authority or ownership pass from God to man. The authority of the Council of Nicaea extended no further than the sovereignty of God allowed. God used this Council to protect the Word of God not to create it.

If you are leading a Bible study and a new member arrives with the Book of Mormon or the Koran, you as a Christian, or a Council or a church have the authority to say that is not the Word of God, to protect your family, ministry or church from error. You do not however have the authority to say what is the Word of God, God Himself makes that decision. You affirm His decision but you do not make it. He made it in giving it to Moses on Sinai and throughout the wanderings. He made it in raising up prophets to whom He granted further Revelation which was written and recorded and preserved under the power and protection of God the Holy Spirit. He gave it to the Apostles who presented it in its complete form to the Church in the days of the Apostles. Once given it was preserved and watched over in the complete form we have it today.

There is no historical proof that the Word of God was compiled as we have it today by a Council hundreds of years after the ministry of Christ and the Apostles. For this there is only historical conjecture based on man's pride. This should be of no surprise to us. The secular and so called religious history books rarely track the truth of Scripture. Instead we have man's interpretation of man's works. The historicity, science, culture and authenticity of God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word is constantly under attack. Is it no wonder that these men have come to view the Bible, the Word of God as the work of man. Is it any wonder that they have come to believe that man decided what was and was not the Word of God. That man having made the decision could be wrong and that man needs therefore to continually be judging, evaluating and changing where necessary the Bible, the work of man. Is it any wonder that such prideful men have come to view themselves as the authenticators and preserves of the Word of God the Bible?

There is by contrast ample Scriptural proof, as provided by God the Holy Spirit that the word of God, the Scriptures was given, preserved and passed down from the time of Moses till today and will continue to be preserved by God the Holy Spirit throughout eternity. As stated previously, the Word of God, words of God the Holy Spirit, clearly makes the claim that the church had the Word of God, the Bible, as we have it today in the days of the Apostles and that this holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word has been preserved and passed down to succeeding generations by God the Holy Spirit and not by man.

Councils, churches, Christians – may have the authority of saying what the Bible is not, but only God has the authority of saying what the Bible is. The thought that the Word of God did not exist in its complete and unadulterated form until man decided what was the Word of God appeals to man's most base and prideful self perception. Poor God the Holy Spirit, He did His best to give the Church the Word of God but He could not preserve it, good thing He has us. Poor God the Holy Spirit, He did His best to communicate God's will to His Church but He could not see ahead to the cultural and sociological changes that would occur as the Church waited for the return of it's blessed Savior, poor naive God the Holy Spirit, good thing He has us. May we repent on bended knee.

In this series of meditations on God's Ownership of God's Word we will be driven back to the fact that the writers of the Word of God, to the fact that Jesus, to the fact that the Apostles, to the fact that God Himself, has viewed and does still view the Word of God as just that – God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word, belonging to God and not to man. We are not free to fix it. We are not free to change it. We are not free to add to it. We are not free to take away from it. We are stewards of that which belongs to another. When the Church abuses that trust, the Church suffers but the Word of God remains pure and undefiled.

It is the authors hope that after finishing this series of meditations on what God the Holy Spirit has to say about God's ownership of the Bible, the Word of God, that you will henceforth in humility approach the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. That when you hear, read, study, memorize, meditate, preach, teach or in anyway take up the Word of God that you will do so with the humility of one entrusted by God as a steward of that which belongs to God the Father, is the revelation of God the Son and is watched over, preserved and protected by God the Holy Spirit. Gone will be the days when you questioned and judged the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. Now will begin the days when God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word daily judges you.

#### **Hebrews 4:12-13**

*For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword,  
and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow,  
and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.  
And there is no creature hidden from His sight,  
but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.*

#### **Revelation 22:18-21**

*I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book:  
if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book;  
and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy,  
God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.  
He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Joshua 24:1 – 28 (:26); I Kings 2:3**

**How does the use of phrases such as “Word of God” reveal God’s ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage’s view of God’s ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Nehemiah 8:1 – 18 (:8 & 18)**

**How does the use of phrases such as “Word of God” reveal God’s ownership of the Bible?**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Jeremiah 15:16**

**How does the use of phrases such as “Word of God” reveal God’s ownership of the Bible?**

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**THEME: Word – The Scriptures Belong To God**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Kings 6:1 – 14 (:12)**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Isaiah 55:1 – 13 (:11)**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Isaiah 66:1 & 2**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Jeremiah 1:1 – 12 (:12)**

**How does the use of phrases such as “Word of God” reveal God’s ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage’s view of God’s ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 30:5; Hebrews 4:12**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 19:9**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 119:1 – 56**

**Read and record verse numbers which indicate the Psalmists conviction of God’s ownership of the Bible – phrase such as “God’s Word, Your Word, Your Testimonies, Law of the Lord etc...**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Plasma 119:57 – 112**

**Read and record verse numbers which indicate the Psalmists conviction of God’s ownership of the Bible – phrase such as “God’s Word, Your Word, Your Testimonies, Law of the Lord etc...**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 119:113 - 176**

**Read and record verse numbers which indicate the Psalmists conviction of God’s ownership of the Bible – phrase such as “God’s Word, Your Word, Your Testimonies, Law of the Lord, etc...**

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**THEME: Word – The Scriptures Belong To God**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 15:1 – 9 (:6); Luke 21:33**

**How does this passage reveal Jesus' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this Jesus' view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 8:1 – 15 (:11)**

**How does this passage reveal Jesus' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this Jesus' view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 11:28; John 10:24 – 39 (:34 & 35)**

**How does this passage reveal Jesus' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this Jesus' view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 17:1 – 14 (:14)**

**How does this passage reveal Jesus' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this Jesus' view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 17:15 – 26 (:17)**

**How does this passage reveal Jesus' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this Jesus' view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mark 7:1 – 13 (:8, 9, 13)**

**How does this passage reveal Jesus' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this Jesus' view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**



**THEME: Word – The Scriptures Belong To God**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 6:1 – 7 (:2 & 7)**

**How does this passage reveal the Apostles' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage's view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 7:14 – 25 (:22 & 25); I Corinthians 7:19**

**How does this passage reveal the Apostles' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage's view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 8:1 – 14 (:14)**

**How does this passage reveal the Apostles' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage's view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

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**THEME: Word – The Scriptures Belong To God**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 13:1 – 49 (:5, 7, 46, 49)**

**How does this passage reveal the Apostles' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage's view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this conviction that the Scriptures belong to God not man in my study/teaching of the Bible?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Peter 1:23 – 26**

**How does this passage reveal the Apostles' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage's view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Thessalonians 2:13; I John 2:1 – 14 (:14)**

**How does this passage reveal the Apostles' view of God's ownership of the Bible?**

**When I reflect on this passage's view of God's ownership of His Word, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

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