

# The Power of God's Word

## Psalm 19:7-11

Thank you Pastor Brad, Praise Team, Choir and (Scripture Reader) for reading the Scripture today. Also, our team that was in Weslaco, Texas this past week is back. We welcome them back and thank them so much for all the work they did in Weslaco. While I am on that subject I would just like to remind you of Jason and Katie Church that are our Missionaries down in Weslaco. We need to be praying for this family as they continue to try to move forward with the ministry down there. So please remember to make sure they are on your prayer list.

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Turn in your Bibles to Psalm 19. As I was preparing and praying over this day, I was saying "God I just don't want to throw something together I want this to kind of be a bridge from where we had just come from and now to where we are going as we go through the Gospel written by Matthew.



Then last week Pastor Kevin said these words. You can read them on the screen as I read them.

***There's only one place that 100% absolute truth can be found and that is in the Word of God. This book is God's breathed Word to us and it is 100% truth. It is from the pages of the Bible that we can know the truth about salvation, about life, about marriage, about conception, about how mankind is to live. Pastor D. Kevin Brown***

What Pastor Kevin said can no better be supported in written form than by this Psalm. So, what we see from this Psalm is very specific. As we break it out, we will see several things.

In verses 7 through 9, we will see that there are 6 Titles for God's Word, 6 Descriptions and 6 Benefits or outcomes of God's Word. Now Psalm 19 is a Psalm by King David that is giving defense or testimony to the Power of God's Word. Hence, the title of today's message, The Power of God's Word.

As we look at this Psalm we see the first 6 verses give testimony to that Creation shows the Glory of God. Just as it says in Romans 1:19-20....

### Romans 1:19-20

***<sup>19</sup>For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup>For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.***

So yes, Creation can get a person thinking about there has to be more to this. There is no way this just happened by chance. But it is not what eventually brings people to Salvation. Can it play a part? Sure! But it is the Word of God! It is the very Words that God has given to us in the Bible that we can know him intimately and know of our need of salvation for our souls. So let's look at these great truths about God's Word.

### **Psalm 19:7**

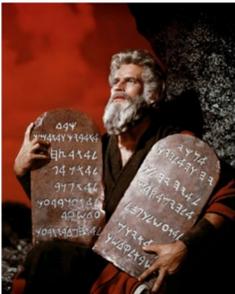
**<sup>7</sup> The Law of the Lord is perfect; reviving the soul; the Testimony of the Lord is sure, making the wise simple.**

We will see in these verses that it says....

1. The Law of the Lord
2. The Testimony of the Lord
3. The Precepts of the Lord
4. The Commandments of the Lord
5. The Fear of the Lord
6. The Rules of the Lord

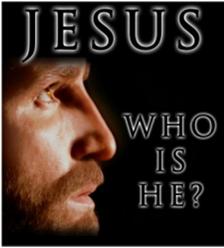
The Hebrew word for Lord here is "Jehovah" which means "Existing One". Jehovah God has always existed and that through him all things exist and are sustained.

When you think of "The Law" what comes to your mind? I believe for most of us it is going to go to Moses and the Ten Commandments.



But we know there are more than just the 10 commandments. That through Moses God gave the Levitical Law or Mosaic Law as it is called also because God brought it through Moses. It is also referred to as the Old Covenant. It is the Torah, the first 5 books of the Bible that was provided for the Jewish nation. The description for this is that it is perfect but even more so what it means is that it is "Complete". The Law was given to the Jews to show that separation that God had planned for them. That through their life he was going to show his Holiness and his Glory and his Power. But also he showed his way to for the forgiveness of sin.

Through the sacrificial system of sacrificing animals and the shedding of blood they could have forgiveness of their sin the Law showed them they had and shows us today. Just as the Jews had the Law we now have the complete Word of God because the Messiah came. Jesus is the walking, talking breathing Old Testament. It was all a picture of Jesus. So when we start the new series through the Gospel of Matthew and answer the question, "Jesus, Who is He?"...



We will see Jesus for who he is!

### **Matthew 5:17-18**

**<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.**

For us today we have the complete Word of God from Genesis to Revelation and it is for us just as the Law was for the Jew that it “Revives the Soul” or “Converts the Soul”.

The Apostle Paul so eloquently states this in Romans Chapter 1:16:

### **Romans 1:16**

**For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.**

### **1 Corinthians 1:18-19**

**<sup>18</sup>For the word (or preaching) of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”**

This is the Power that will convert a soul! This is the Power that will change these old wretched hearts!

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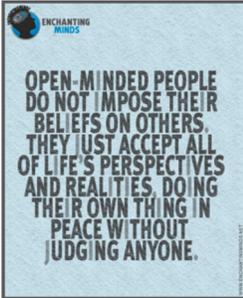
So, the Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving (converting) the soul. But in verse 7 it also talks about the, Testimony of the Lord. What is testimony? Does anyone remember at Church that you would have what was called a testimony time or even have testimony services? Well, it is giving witness to or as you probably have heard it said, “Can I get a witness!” What are they calling for? Someone to confirm what they have just said.

That is what we are seeing here. The testimony of the Lord is sure. What that means is that the Law of the Lord gives witness, confirms who God is and also gives witness to all knowledge and wisdom. What it does it gives the foundation it gives the confirmation of 100% truth. Then what does that fact do. The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. Or how we talk we would say that the testimony of the Lord will make the simple wise.

When we think of simple what do we usually think of? Maybe, being naïve or basic. That's not what this means here. What this means is being open minded!



From the world's standpoint what does the world consider an open-minded person to be? Smart, they are a free thinker. Well let's look at a definition of what it means to be open-minded.



So you just live life any way you want. Everything is good. Just get out there and do your own thing. No absolutes. No right, No wrong. And definitely don't tell someone that there is such a thing as sin.

What is God's Word saying about being open-minded? God is definitely not saying it is a good thing. What it is saying is that there is no filter that is not filtering out the bad stuff, the garbage. To be open-minded is to allow in any wind of doctrine or anything someone says and say well that sounds good to me.

But God's Word is the filter of all life. It shows us that there are absolutes and with it we filter out the lies of Satan as it pertains to what I read earlier. *It is from the pages of the Bible that we can know the truth about salvation, about life, about marriage, about conception, about how mankind is to live.*

Romans 12:1-2 speaks to this so much.

### Romans 12:1-2

**<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good, and acceptable and perfect.**

I like what John MacArthur said one time as I was listening to him. As he was preaching, he said that if you are here today and you consider yourself to have an open-mind. Then close it! You are not filtering what is going in. Sometimes even as followers of Jesus Christ we don't filter everything out do we? We let that word slip. We let that anger flare up. We watch, listen or click on something we know we shouldn't. Repent. Go back to the Word of God and spend time in it and let it speak to truth you.

I hate to do this but I am going to burst some bubbles and probably make some of you mad. When I went to the Philippines in May of last year, the movie Frozen was one of the movies on it. So, I watched it. 4 times!!! But about the third time I noticed something about the song Let it Go! As Queen Elsa is going up that mountain, I told you I saw it 4 times, I heard these words.

**It's time to see what I can do  
To test the limits and break through  
No right, no wrong, no rules for me  
I'm free**

Now I am not saying it was a bad movie. My point is it is everywhere and we have to filter and sometimes we have to say no. People this is the only truth. Jesus said and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free. Not believing in everything and doing your own thing.

We continue to see this cascading effect of these verses. We see the Law and the testimony or witness it brings to the reality of God and the reality of who we are as sinners. But what is entailed in the law and we find that as we look at verses 8 and 9.

### **Psalm 19:8**

**The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.**

Well, what is a precept? This is where we get into truth and the absoluteness of God and his Word. In verse 7 it talks about the Law as a whole. Remember the word is Torah which relates to the first 5 books of the Old Testament. But a precept or a statute would be the specifics of the Law. Again the Ten Commandments would be considered precepts. The specifics of the Mosaic Law would be the precepts.

1. You shall have no other gods before me!
2. You shall not have any idols!
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain! And that covers more than what some of you are thinking right now.
4. Honor the Sabbath
5. Honor your mother and Father
6. Don't murder
7. Don't commit adultery
8. Don't steal
9. Don't lie
10. Don't covet.

Those are all precepts and statutes. What God said in the Garden of Eden when God brought Eve before Adam and he said these very words in Genesis Chapter 2 verse 24.

### **Genesis 2:24**

**Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to this wife, and they shall become one flesh.**

### Matthew 19:4-6

<sup>4</sup>Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,  
<sup>5</sup>and said, Therefore, a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. <sup>6</sup>So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let no man separate.

That is a precept. The feasts that the Jews were to keep, the cleanliness precepts, the precepts against sexual immorality and all the others that are covered in the Levitical Law. But Jesus himself covered a lot of these on the Sermon on the Mount. Going further as he said if you hate another person you are guilty of murder. If you lust after a woman in your mind you have committed adultery. What is the premise here? God is saying these are my intentions or desires that you live this way because these are right!

What this means is that they are true, they are straight! Enter at the straight gate or narrow gate as Jesus says in Matthew 7 because it is right and true and absolute.

It says also in verse 8 that the “Commandment of the Lord” is pure. What is God saying? Not only is this his desire but it is command that you follow them. We’ve been going through 1 John on the daily devotions and John repeats the word of Jesus when he says in 1 John 5:2-3.

### 1 John 5:2-3

<sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

People if are finding obey the commands of God burdensome then we have a heart problem. We are in bondage to our sin and to the lies of Satan. Because what do we see in verse 8 the outcome or the benefit of surrendering to God’s precepts. It rejoices the heart. When we come to God in repentance and our eyes are opened to our sinfulness and we repent and tell God to take over our lives then it rejoices the heart. We are not in bondage to the sin of this world and it also says it enlightens our eyes to truth. Because God knows best and he knows what is best for our lives and it is not here on this earth.

And this leads us back to the point of holiness in our lives as followers of Jesus Christ. But you know what else this shows us as we conclude today as we look at verse 9.

### Psalm 19:9

**The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever, the rules of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

The Hebrew word for fear here is “Yira”. You know what it means? Fear! We sometimes try to sugar coat when this word is used. We will say things like, reverence or a healthy fear. But people this means to fear God. When our eyes are opened to the Law of God, the Word of God then people we will have a fear of the Lord. For we will see God for who he is! Yes, in all his love, mercy and grace. But in all his judgment and wrath that comes upon sin.

Proverbs 1:7 says, The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, fools despise wisdom and instructions.

Psalm 51:4 – King David wrote, against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

People it is my prayer today that you will commit once again to obeying the Word of God and you will study it to know it. Because the Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving, converting the Soul! If there is one here today that is lost and you are being drawn by the Holy Spirit of God to repent of your sins and surrender your life to Jesus. I am here to talk with you. For some of you, you may just need to come and pray today and give God your burdens and you may just come and in prayer just give God praise today. Whatever the case be obedient to God! Please stand!