



## The Integrity of the Word

As we delve into the subject—the integrity of the Word, keep in mind “that the man of God may be perfect,” and that the Word of God is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, which is instruction in righteousness. Have you ever considered Man’s basic spiritual problem?

Man’s basic spiritual problem is believing the integrity of the Word of God. Does it mean what it says when it says it, why it says it, and where it says it?

*(Deu 8:3) And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers*



*know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

Man does not live by bread alone. God does not have a mouth. This is a figure of speech, Condensio, meaning, “attributing human characteristics to God.” But God is not a man and isn’t of human design in any fashion. Man does need bread though, and perhaps he gets a little too much of it at

times. The soul of man must be fed soul food, but what about if a man needs spiritual food? The spiritual man is fed spiritual food. Spiritual food is “every word which proceeds out of the mouth of God.”

The Word of God is that food required by man so that man might be able to renew his mind so that he can manifest the triumphant life.

Spiritual weakness and inability can be due only to improper food or neglect of the Word of God.

The neglect today is when Christians read the Bible and do not understand it.

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These subjects, figures of speech; doctrine, reproof and correction; the nine manifestations and so many other things, are seldom, if ever, taught today. We have not made the Word to live.

The neglect of the Word is due to a gross lack of understanding when we read it. When you read it, what do you know? Practically nothing.

Improper food is attributed to the wrong dividing of God's Word.

When we fail to understand the Word, we follow after the doctrines and traditions of men. Then we get blown about by every wind and doctrine. Most men and women usually are held spellbound by the fleeting shadows of a few great names rather than by the Word. If Doctor so and so said it, then it has to be true. We are not to be held spellbound by the names of

a few men. We are to go to the Word. People believe what men say, and then go to the Word to try to back up what they believe. That is the wrong way. Whether I believe it or not, it is still God's Word. That's why believing in the integrity of the Word is so important. It's what we learn after we already know it that is important.

A man can believe what he wants to believe. That's his privilege. If a five gallon bucket is full, you can't put anymore into it. You'll have to empty it first. Then you'll have some room. It's the same with receiving God's Word. Empty out the old, worthless information from your mind and fill it with God's Word. This Word is accurate. It fits together with a mathematical exactness and a scientific precision. We must be honest and give God's Word place. Let the Word speak, and adjust your thinking to what

the Word says.

Traditions, instead of God's Word, fool you every time. If a man thinks he knows a certain subject, but does not, it is impossible to teach him.

(Mark 7:1-9) Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem. {2} And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault. {3} For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders. {4} And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brazen vessels, and of tables.

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{5} Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands? {6} He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. {7} Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. {8} For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. {9} And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

They were religious, but that doesn't mean that they were biblically or spiritually accurate.

Give God's Word place; refute traditions to the point they do not usurp God's Word.

(Eph 1:17-19) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: {18} The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, {19} And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

This expresses God's desire for his man. Consider what is available. He gave these things to us, but it's up to us to go to God's Word in order to receive it. Work to gain the knowledge contained in God's Word. Man

looks for what other men say; we must go to the Word, for it is the Word of God that shows us God's Will.

(Col 2:8) Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Philosophy and vain deceit will spoil you. The Word that we receive is not to be after man's rudimentary and worldly philosophies and traditions, but after Christ's accomplishments. A world of good works won't do it for God. You must act according to His Word.

(1 Cor 2:4-5) And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: {5} That your faith should

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not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Our believing must stand in the power of God.

(Psa 18:30) As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.

God's way is perfect. Can you imagine a better solution?

(Psa 119:14) I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.

Do you rejoice in the Word as if you had found great riches? This is God's desire for you.

(Psa 19:8-10) The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

{9} The fear of the LORD is

clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. {10} More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold. Allow the Word of God to become this to you.

(James 3:17) But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

God's Word is easy to receive. These words are from heaven above. In order for it to work for us, we ought to wash out our ears to receive its greatness.

(Rom 12:2) And be not

conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Be ye transformed. We must change our minds by believing what It says—then will come transformation! The greatest of all of God's works is His Word. He placed it above His name. If we would make it our own, then all of its benefits would come to us. If it will ever work for us, we have to follow it, applying it in every aspect of our lives. All of the keys for the great triumphant life in Christ are contained within the Word of God. We must believe in the integrity of God's Word in order to tap into the resources for the Triumphant life!

Muck love in Christ!

Jerry D. Brown