



The Written Word Becomes Living and Real

In the November 2015 Artios, we learned about the Living Word. To continue this study centered on the bible's integrity, we must understand that we have life in the measure and to the degree that God's written word prevails in us. God's word produces the same results now as it did 2000 years ago. When I speak God's word, if I believe, that word will produce the same results today as it did then. Why? Because the written word contains the very life of God. This word must prevail, meaning that it must become living and real.

(John 17:17) Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.



God's word is to become our only source of faith and practice.

(Mal 3:6) For I am the LORD, I change not; . . .

God does not change; his word does not change either. This is why it produces the same results now as it did then.

The written word of God will become living and real to the extent that you believe it.

Nehemiah chapter eight teaches a fantastic example of this.

(Neh 8:1-3) And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel. {2} And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. {3} And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that

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could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

Can you imagine such a scene?

The people were of one mind, having convened for one purpose—to hear Ezra the priest read the written word of God. They listened for hours as the word was read.

(Neh 8:5-6) And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: {6} And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

It seems that these people were humbled in their hearts and

completely enthralled with what they heard. They believed what they heard, the critical component to making God's word living and real.

(Neh 8:8) So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

The priest gave the sense; in other words, he explained the meaning, thus causing the audience to understand.

(Neh 8:17) And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness.

It is possible for God's people to

have very great gladness when they hear, understand and believe God's word. The written word will become living and real for you as you believe and trust in it. Notice the tremendous hunger for the knowledge of God that these people had. They had been without the written word for a very long time, made changes to their ways of life and were rewarded with a renewed hunger for God. The scribes and priests had their work cut out for them as they taught the word so that the people could understand. These people heard and believed! This is what happens when the word becomes living and real. People believe! Have you ever seen people with this amount of hunger for God's word? In the New Testament, we are taught that, by the space of two years, all of Asia heard the word of the lord Jesus under the ministry of one man, Paul.

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(Acts 19:10) And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

These people believed!

When God's word becomes living and real, gladness will prevail. When the written word becomes living and real, revival will be upon us. Gladness and revival are dependent upon people believing God's word. You can't have gladness or revival until the word becomes living and real in the hearts and lives of men and women. The written word has to become real to people and the people must believe!

Much Love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown