

Recap of 11/12/17:

1. "That God has spoken in Holy Scripture is the very heart of our faith and without this certainty we should be left to the relativity of human knowledge. God has spoken!" (Bernard Ramm)

-Christians know that the Word of God, which cost them nothing and which they can neither buy nor sell, is beyond value, and at the same time it shapes all other values." (Eugene Peterson)

2. The Word of God is vital to ...

-the new birth and to growing in our new life, 1 Peter 1:23-2:2

Peter tells us that we are born again by the Word of God and our new life is nourished by the Word of God. The Word of God is not perishable but permanent, it endures forever unlike the things of the earth. Believers should be eager for the Word. The Word helps them to deal with sin in their lives. Salvation is not the end but the beginning.

-to going on to maturity, Hebrews 5:11-6:3

The writer of Hebrews challenged these believers who had been saved for a long time to move from milk to meat in their diet of the Word of God. They were stuck in the elementary things (the ABC's of faith). Because of that they were lacking spiritual and moral discernment. They needed to move on to maturity, not just knowing more but applying what they knew.

-to living skillfully, Proverbs 2:1-6

Biblical wisdom is not just knowledge or theoretical, it is the ability to apply God's Word to life's challenges. It is not just knowledge but the right application of knowledge. "The wise person is sensitive to God, submits to Him, and applies God's guidelines when making daily choices." (Larry Richards)

-for equipping us for good works, Ephesians 2:8-10, 2 Timothy 3:16,17

Though we are not saved by good works, God expects and equips us by His Word to serve Him as a result of salvation. "Believe God's Word will save you (vs. 15), mature you from childhood to adulthood (vs. 15,17), and equip you to serve the Lord (vs. 17)." (Warren Wiersbe)