

VIII. THE BLESSINGS OF SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

PROVERBS 3:3-4;

"Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man."

INTRODUCTION

Dr. R. A. Torrey said "You may have your all-night prayer meetings, and no one would dare minimize prayer. But you personally will not be an instrument the Holy Spirit will use to consistently bring souls to Christ until you familiarize yourself with God's Word."

We need to be able to find the place where it is written in God's word! Jesus knew=Luke 4: 17 "And there was delivered unto Him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when He had opened the book; he found the place where it was written,"

When tempted by Satan, Jesus quoted scripture to gain victory over the temptation and it ended each temptation of Satan. Luke 4:4, 8, 12; "It is written" Matthew 4:4, 7,10;

Consider the importance of Knowing God's word!

Job 22:22: "Receive, I pray thee, the law from His mouth, and lay up His words in thine heart." Job 23:12: "Neither have I gone back from the commandment of His lips: I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food." Matthew 4:4: "But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Psalm 1:2-3: "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like-a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Psalm 119:9, 11, 72, 97, 103, 105, 111, 130,133,140,162; "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word." "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." "The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver." "O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day." "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth." "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." "Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart." "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." "Order my steps in thy word; and let not any iniquity have dominion over me." "Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it." "I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil." 1 Peter 2:2-3: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby; If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious."

Deep down in the heart of every normal person born into the human race there is a three- fold desire: a desire to be happy and joyful; a desire to be wise; and a desire to be successful. Anyone who will schedule himself to obey (Psalm 1:2-3: "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and "whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Joshua 1:8: "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." James 1:5: "If any of you lack

wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. " Psalm 37:4; "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.") will realize this achievement in their life! Joy, Wisdom, and Success.

WHY MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE??

- I. Memorizing God's word will enable us to follow the instructions God gave to Israel regarding His word=Deuteronomy 6:6-7; "And these words which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down and when thou risest up."
 - A. God's word will guide us. keep us from sin, and talk with us=Proverbs 6:20-23
Psalm 119:130; "The entrance of thy words giveth light: it giveth understanding to the simple! Psalm 119: 11 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee." GOD'S WORD WILL KEEP US FROM SIN OR SIN WILL KEEP US FROM GOD'S WORD!
 - B. God's word will keep us from the evil way=Proverbs 2:10-12:
 - C. God's word will talk to sinners through us=2 Corinthians 5:20; "Now then we are Ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." Acts 1:8; "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (home-our Jerusalem, country-Judea, Other countries-Samaria) Psalm 19:7a: "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:"
 - i. We prove our love for Jesus by our obedience=John 14:15; "If ye love me, keep my commandments." One of His commandments is that we be a witness for Him! John 14:21,23; "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him and will manifest myself to him." "Jesus answered and said unto him; If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." The Great Commission is to us! Matthew 28:18-20;
 - ii. We give evidence that we know Jesus by obeying Him=1 John 2:3-4; "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in Him. But whoso keepeth His word, in him verily is the love of God perfected; hereby know we that we are in Him."
 - iii. Illustration=Doson Trotman, the originator of the Navigators, mastered 1,000 verses the first three years of his Christian life. He took his memorization course with him to Formosa, coupled with a soul-winning program. He met with nine churches': Five years later the Word through the believers, had

increased (Acts 6:7;), grew and prevailed (Acts 19:20;), so there were ninety churches and one-sixth of a million converts who had finished the first part of the memorization plan. Another 100,000 had accepted Christ whom Dawson Trotman and the workers were not able to get through the memory course.

II. Having God's word memorized and hidden in our hearts will help enable us to have our prayers answered.

A. Abiding in Christ and His word abiding in us will result in answered prayer! John 15:7; "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." 1 John 3:22; "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."

B. Having God's word memorized and hidden in our hearts will enable us to know God's will which will result in answered prayer also! 1 John 5:14-15; "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him."

III. Memorizing God's word and obeying it will purify our hearts= Psalm 12:6; "The words of the LORD are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times." Psalm 119:40; "Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it."

A. When we pay heed to it=Psalm 119:9; "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word."

B. When the Lord speaks through His word=John 15:3; "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

C. We are sanctified and cleansed by the word=Ephesians 5:26-27; "That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

IV. Memorizing God's word brings other blessings into our life like:

A. Wisdom=Psalm 19:7b; "The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

B. Joy=Jeremiah 15:16; "Thy words were found, and I did eat them: and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts." Psalm 19:8a; "The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart:"

C. Something very Precious=Psalm 119:72; "The law of Thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver." Illustration=Stable boy of rich man. Psalm 19:9- 10; "The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

D. Light and Understanding=Psalm 119:130; "The entrance of thy words giveth light, it giveth understanding unto the simple."

E. Secrets of Eternal Life=John 3:15-16; "That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Eternal Life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 10:10b; Jesus said "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Psalm 16:11; "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

YES, MEMORIZING GOD'S WORD WILL BRING WONDERFUL BLESSING INTO YOUR LIFE!!

It will require only a few minutes a day and some self discipline but the time and effort spent will be of Eternal Value!!

Are you willing to invest a few minutes of your life for something of Eternal Worth??

Below is the simple plan of Salvation for you to memorize and use to bring someone to the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior!

I. **The Fact Of Sin=Romans 3:23; "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God;"** ILLUSTRATION=Ask the person "How many times does a person have to steal to be a thief? (Answer-Once) "How many times does a person have to tell a lie to be a liar? (Answer- Once). "How many times does a person have to sin to be a sinner?" (Answer-Once. Thus all are guilty as sinners and need the Savior.

II. **The Penalty Of Sin=Romans 6:23a; "For the wages of sin is death;"** Where did death come from?? **Romans 5:12; "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men; for that all have sinned."** The one man was Adam, the first man who willingly disobeyed God=Genesis 3.

Two kinds of death=Physical and the Second Death which is eternal death! **Revelation 20:14-15; "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire.** This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." The second death is eternal death. This death separates one from God for ever. When a person receives the Lord Jesus as Savior, you will find their name written in the book of life.

III. **Christ paid the penalty=Romans 5:8; "But God commendeth (showed forth or made known) His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."**

IV. **Confess and believe=Romans 10:9-10; "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him**

from, the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

V. **Pray inviting the Lord Jesus into your heart=Romans 10:13; "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."** You may have to help the person with this prayer confessing that they are a sinner and inviting the Lord Jesus into their life by stating they believe Christ died for their sin, was buried and arose from the dead.

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