

## THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S WORD IN THE BELIEVER'S LIFE

### Psalm 19

Why is it that some people seem to grow more, spiritually, than others? Why is it that some move forward and accomplish great things for God's glory and others just fall away from the faith? Do you want to grow spiritually? Growing spiritually is a combination of doing the right thing and not doing the wrong thing. If you want to be a growing Christian, you must read, study, and love the Word of God, and you need to read the Bible as if your life depended on it, because it does.

So what do we learn in Psalm 19 about the Bible?

### PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

- 1. The Bible is perfect.** The phrase the law of the Lord is a Hebrew term used to define Scripture. God's Word is perfect. That is in direct contrast to the flawed imperfect reasoning of humanity. We read in 2 Timothy 3:16 that all Scripture is inspired by God. Everything you need to know about God, about life, and the afterlife is found in this book.
- 2. The Word of God transforms us.** Psalm 19:7 says, "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (KJV). The word here for converting could be translated "it revives, it restores, and it transforms." God's Word will revive you. God's Word will restore you. God's Word will transform you. And you must obey the Bible (see James 1:22–25).
- 3. The Word of God gives us incredible wisdom.** "The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." As we begin to see this world and culture from God's perspective, we begin to develop a biblical worldview. Our perspective draws less from the images and influences of the world around us, and more from God's wisdom.
- 4. The Word of God is right.** In Hebrews, this means that the Bible sets out the right path to follow. It is the truth from heaven. The idea is that we need to conform our thinking to what the Bible says, not the other way around, like so many people try to do today. When you disagree with Scripture, you need to change your opinion to adapt to what the Bible teaches—not try to adapt this book to what you feel, or what culture says.
- 5. Keeping the Word of God makes you happy.** "The statute of the Word of the Lord is right, rejoicing the heart." That could just as easily be translated "making you happy." Rejoice and blessed are interchangeable words with the word happy. Jesus says in Luke 11:28 (ERV), "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it." It is a happy thing.

# GREG'S NOTES

## A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES



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### RELEVANT REMINDERS

When you read Scripture, it is important to examine it for ways in which you can apply it to your life. Here are some questions that you can ask yourself as you read each verse or passage:

- Is there a sin described here for me to avoid?
- Is there a promise for me to claim?
- Is there a victory to gain?
- Is there a blessing to enjoy?

### APPLICABLE ACTIONS

I can come to the Bible and say, “The Bible says I can’t do this and I can’t do that. The Bible is so unfair. God is so mean.” Or, I can say, “Maybe God told me this because He loves me and He is trying to keep me out of trouble.” When He tells us not to lie there is a reason. When He says, “Don’t steal,” there is a reason. When He commands us not to commit adultery, there is a reason. He is trying to protect you from harm, from destruction. He is trying to keep you close to Him. If you keep His Word, the Word of God will make you a happy person. You have to stay in the Word of God if you want to be spiritually successful.