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NO DEPOSIT – NO RETURN

As a youngster all pop (soda or soft drinks in the south) came in glass bottles. Imprinted on some of the bottles were the words “Deposit 10¢.” You had to pay a deposit on these bottles, and would only get that money back after drinking it when you turned the empties back in. Other bottles had “No Deposit – No Return” on them and they would be discarded because there was no value in them. We often would go look for the empty bottles that had “Deposit 10¢” on them. Someone had discarded them not caring about their value. We could return them and get a few cents. It could add up. In our family we didn’t drink pop much because it was a luxury, so when we found an empty bottle that had value, it was like finding gold.

I see the word of God much the same as these bottles. The Word of God contains all that a person needs for wisdom, understanding, decision making, God’s will about things and much more. We can carelessly leave this word (the bible) sitting on a shelf, or we can open it up and enjoy the truths that can be found in it. Once we find these truths it is often a life-changing event. So often I have found a “hidden nugget” that has affected my life. These truths only came by opening the word. I deposited this word in my life, and the word changed me.

Unlike those discarded “No Deposit – No Return” bottles, God gives great return on what we deposit into our lives through reading His word. In Isaiah 55:11 it says, ***“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”*** When God speaks a promise and we believe it, it will have great return for us. It will not return empty. You can always trust God’s word, because He is the Word. We learn that from John 1:1 where it says, ***“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”***

When you read and study the bible, you are reading Jesus’ words. He brings them to you and the deposit is made into your life. The interesting thing is that you get to keep it and benefit from it. But by speaking the word we have deposited into our lives over circumstances, we receive what’s been deposited again. God’s word never stops returning. The deposit made into our lives is a continuous benefit.

So often people are walking in defeated lives because they have not deposited the promises of God into their lives. They look to others for their “fix” and that can only be temporary. It would be like buying that bottle of pop but asking someone else to drink it for you. It won’t give you any benefit by doing that. You must deposit it yourselves to get the results that you need.

In these days there is so much deception that if you don’t have the word deposited into you then you will fall into Satan’s traps. When the word has been deposited a “red flag” will arise when someone is teaching something contrary to the truth found in the Word. I have seen many lives destroyed because they didn’t heed the warnings in God’s word. Remember, with God, without the deposit there is no return.