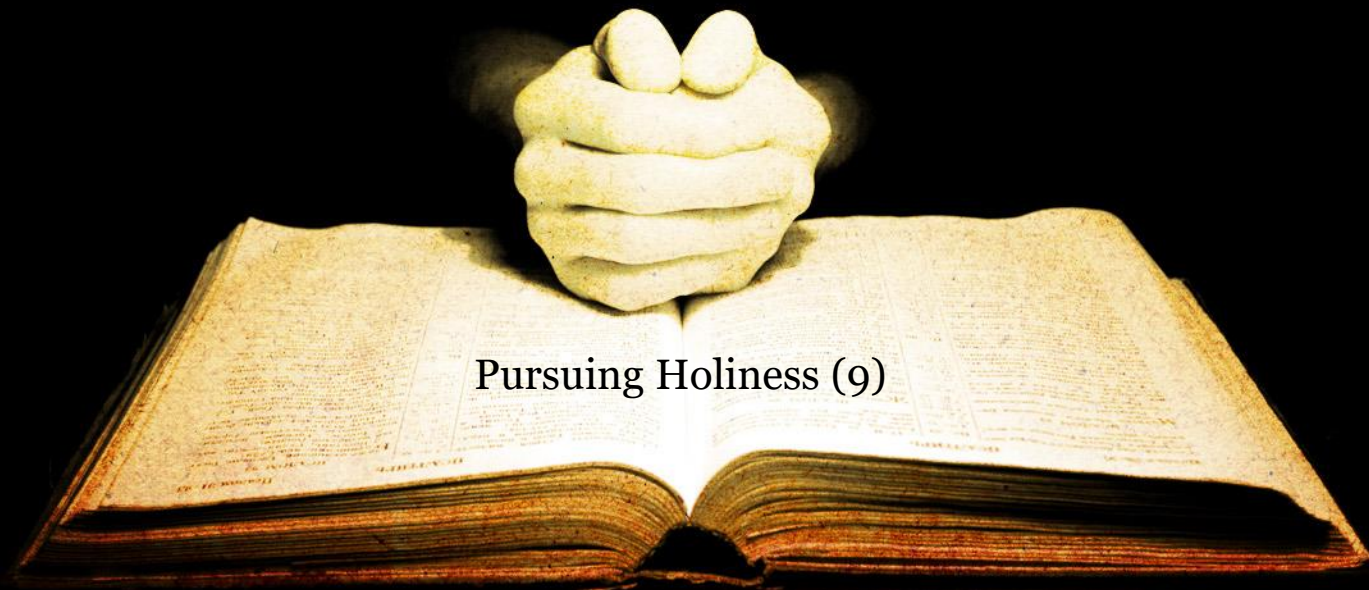


# Respecting God's Word (1)



Pursuing Holiness (9)

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God
  - How God communicates to us today
    - Ephesians 3:3-4**
    - 2 Timothy 3:15-17**
- When He speaks, His will happens
  - Creation - **Genesis 1:3,**  
**Hebrews 11:3, Psalm 33:6-9**
  - **Isaiah 55:11** - His word will not return to Him void

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God
  - **Psalm 138:2**, You have magnified Your word above Your name
  - We know how great His name is
  - But how do know Him and His greatness?
- He tells us -
  - 1 Corinthians 2:10-11,**
  - 2 Peter 1:19**

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Consider also the power of His word  
- He speaks and it happens

**Hebrews 4:12**

**Romans 1:16-17**

**2 Corinthians 10:3-6** - the  
weapons of our warfare...

**2 Peter 1:19** - the prophetic word  
confirmed...

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Viewed with reverence by His followers

**Exodus 19-20,**

**20:1** - God spoke all these words...

**20:18-21** - the people trembled

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Viewed with reverence by His followers

## Josiah, King of Judah

**2 Kings 22** – The book of the Law was found (8), and read to Josiah (11-13) - he mourned and inquired of the LORD.

**2 Kings 23:1-3** - the law read in the presence of the people and a covenant was made.

**23:21-23** - they keep the Passover, as had not been done in nearly a millennia.

**23:23-25** - Josiah blessed by the LORD

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Viewed with reverence by His followers

## Nehemiah

**Nehemiah 8:1-9**– The walls were completed, but true worship still needed to be restored

- As Ezra reads, the people stand, bow their heads and weep

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Viewed with reverence by His followers

## Cornelius

**Acts 10** – A Roman centurion (1<sup>st</sup> Gentile convert) who feared God. When told to send for Peter, he responded immediately.

Note **vs. 33** - we are all present before God, to hear...



# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Viewed with reverence by His followers

## The Bereans

**Acts 17:11** – as Paul leaves Thessalonica (2<sup>nd</sup> journey), he comes to Berea. They were more receptive to the Word of the Lord.

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Viewed with reverence by His followers

## The Thessalonians

**1 Thessalonians 2:13** – SOME were receptive and welcomed the teachings of Paul as the word of God (acknowledging His “credentials”)

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Failures to reverence God's word

## Adam and Eve

**Genesis 3:1-7** – It was NOT just about a piece of fruit. IT was about rebellion and a failure to reverence God and His instructions.

**Cf. Romans 5:12-13ff** (contrasted with Christ)

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Failures to reverence God's word  
**Nadab and Abihu**  
**Leviticus 10:1-3** – offered  
“unauthorized fire” and were burned  
to death. God demands that He be  
regarded as holy.

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
Failures to reverence God's word

## Moses' failure

**Numbers 20:12** – of all the good Moses did, on one occasion he struck the rock instead of speaking to it. Because he failed to hallow God's words, he was forbidden from entering the promised land.

(**cf. Deuteronomy 3:23-27**)

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
**2 Peter 1:19-21**, His prophetic word is a light that shines in a dark place

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God  
**Psalm 119**, a powerful psalm about God's word. Consider:  
**1-2** - Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord  
**49** - You have caused me to hope  
**86** - Commandments are faithful  
**89-91** - Settled in heaven  
**96** - Commandment is exceedingly broad  
**120** - flesh trembles for fear of You  
**130** - entrance of Your words gives light  
**137-138** - Upright and righteous judgments

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God

## **Psalm 19:7-11,**

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
converting the soul;

The testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple;

The statutes of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the LORD is  
pure, enlightening the eyes;...



# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- The Bible IS the Word of God

## **Psalm 19:7-11,**

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;

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.

Moreover, by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward.

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- WHY should I accept the Bible as the word of God?  
Consider our apologetics class (esp. part 2)
- Internally -
  - Its unity - though written in 3 languages, on 3 continents, by about 40 writers over about 1500 years.
  - Prophecy
  - Its historical and geographical accuracy
  - Its impact on its readers and world history

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- WHY should I accept the Bible as the word of God?  
Consider our apologetics class
- Externally -
  - The manuscript evidence - more than 20,000 manuscripts from all over the world, with incredible accuracy
  - Historical attestation - acknowledged by many, including antagonists
  - Its scientific accuracy - ahead of its time

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- WHY should I accept the Bible as the word of God?
- There is plenty of proof for why you should consider the Bible we have as the word of God.  
No other book in all of history parallel's its impact and distribution.

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

- I need to view it as the key to my salvation
- If I accept the Bible as God's word, it gives me what I need to be saved, overcome sin and serve God

**Romans 1:16-17**

**2 Timothy 3:15**

**Ephesians 1:13**

**Hebrews 2:1-4** - how shall we escape

# Viewing the Bible with Reverence

It is key to understanding holiness and  
**HOW I can be holy!**

- **1 Peter 1:15-16** - we are to pursue holiness looking to God and His holiness (hence we reverence His word).
- **2 Peter 1:3-4** - it gives us “all things that pertain to life and godliness”

The Bible IS God's  
message to us!  
HOW will let it  
influence you?





Let us pray!