

“The Value of the Word of God”

2 Tim. 3:15-17

Knowing Him and Making Him Known

The book of God has the power to change our lives by changing our minds. There is no other book in the world with this kind of power. Only this book has come to us from God.

Why did God give us a revelation that was absolute and certain? What value does this book hold for me? 2 Timothy 3:15-17 communicates to us three purposes for this inspired record.

I. The book of God guides us in the way of Salvation (2 Tim. 3:15).

Romans 1:16 and 2 Timothy 3:15 use the Greek word “power,” **dunamis**, to describe the gospel’s power to save. There is only one element that can break the chains of sin that have long enslaved us, the power of God as manifested in the Gospel.

A. Salvation Negatively Considered

1. It is not by deeds of righteousness (Titus 3:5).
2. It is not by devotion to rules (Gal. 2:16).
3. It is not by descendant or race (Phil. 3:4-8).

B. Salvation Positively Considered

1. We are saved by grace alone (Eph. 2:8; Rom. 3:24).
2. We are saved through faith alone (Eph. 2:9; John 6:44; Matt. 11:27).
3. We are saved in Christ alone (John 14:7, Acts 4:12, 16:30, 1 Timothy 2:15)

It is and forever will be by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

II. The book of God guides us in the way of Sanctification (2 Tim. 3:16).

The present ministry of the Word is in verse sixteen. The four activities noted in verse sixteen are as follows: (Notice the progression of each - there is a sequence to all of this.)

- A. It is profitable for teaching sinners the truth.
- B. It is profitable for convicting sinners of their lawlessness.

Continued on the other side...

- C. It is profitable for saving sinners and realigning saints.
- D. It is profitable for disciple-making (Cf. Matt. 28:19, 2 Tim. 2:2).

There is no other book that can do what the Scripture does. The whole process prepares us for the activity of verse 17.

III. The book of God guides us in the way of Service (2 Tim. 3:17).

The Word prepares us for the moment or for such a time as this. We are sufficient to meet the demands of the times.

God has given to each of us a gift. This gifting is for the purpose of building the body and strengthening her members. God has brought people into each of our lives. As people come into our circle of influence, we are to touch them with the love of God. All of us should reach out and touch someone with the love of Christ.

APPLICATION: Making the Transfer

Why should I make the study of this book a priority?

1. Because it is a guiding light (Ps. 119:10, 104, 105)
2. Because it is a nourishing food (Ps. 119:103 [cf Ps. 19:10; 119:72, 127]; Jer. 15:16; Matt. 4:4 [Deut. 8:3]; 1Pt. 2:2 [1Cor. 3:2; Heb. 5:12, 13])
3. Because it is a cleansing agent (Ps. 119:9, 11; John 15:3; 17:17; Eph. 5:26; Heb. 4:12)
4. Because it is a saving power (Rom. 1:16; 2 Tim. 3:15)
5. Because it is a protective weapon (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12)