

# GOD'S POWERFUL WORD

By Bob Gard

Hollister Missouri church of Christ

[www.hollisterchurchofchrist.org](http://www.hollisterchurchofchrist.org)

Hebrews 4:12

## Introduction

There are a lot of things that are powerful, such as;

1. Nature
  - a. Hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, etc.
2. Manmade
  - a. Locomotive, space shuttle, atomic bomb, etc.

But nothing is as POWERFUL as the Word of God. This morning, I want us to look at some of the reasons why God's Word is so powerful. It is Powerful because:

### I. God's Word created the worlds.

- A. Gen. 1:1 What a powerful statement. Everything that is in the universe is included in those ten words.
- B. Notice HOW everything came into existence.
  1. Look at verse 3. "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."
  2. Each day of the creation week begins with, "And God said,..."
  3. Psalms 33: 6 says, "By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth."
- C. God's Word Upholds All Things.
  1. Heb. 1:3f "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of his power..."
    - a. In the beginning God spoke and the world came into existence. Today, He keeps things in order, or all together, through His Word. Robert Milligan said this means that He still maintains the order, harmony, and well being of His whole creation; so as to bring all things forward to their appointed destiny.
  2. God not only created the world, but maintains it through His Word.

### II. God's Word created Us.

- A. Mankind spends a lot of time trying to figure out where we came from. Most today believe that we, and the whole universe, are just a big accident. But God's Word tells a different story.
- B. Gen. 1:26,27 "And God said,...." (Read verses 26-27)
  1. Mankind was created on the sixth day of creation and we are the pinnacle of all of God's creation. We know this because we are the only thing created in the image and likeness of God and God made us a living soul. Gen. 2:7 (Read)

2. We have been created by God and therefore we owe Him everything.
  - a. We are obligated to do whatever He asks of us.

### **III. God's Word Calls Us.**

A. How do we know what it is that God wants us to do? Through His Word. And we learn through His Word that God calls us:

1. To Himself. God wants a relationship with us. He walked and talked with Adam and Eve in the garden until sins separated them from God. He wants that type of relationship again, so He sent His Son.
  - a. Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28
  - b. John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."
  - c. God wants us to come to Him through His Son Jesus Christ.
2. To Do His Will.
  - a. One of the great questions of life is, "Why am I here?" God answers that question for us in Ecc.12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."
  - b. When God created Adam and Eve in the garden, He expected them to obey His commands. And God expects the same thing from us today.
    1. Jesus said, "If you love me keep my commandments." John 14:15
3. To Repent.
  - a. Mark 2:17, "When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
  - b. Rom. 3:23, "For all have sinned..." Therefore we all need repentance.
4. To Be His Children
  - a. II Cor. 6:16-18, "...as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."
  - b. God is calling us to be His children. How do we become the children of God? That brings us to our next point.

### **IV. God's Word Saves Us.**

A. God wants everyone to be saved.

1. Therefore, He says in John 1:12, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God..."
  - a. Power = Ability
2. We get that Power or Ability through the Word of God.
  - a. Rom. 1:16 says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation..."

3. We are saved, or become children of God, through obedience to His Word.
  4. And because of His great love and patience we have that opportunity.
    - a. II Peter 3:9, “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”
    - b. John 3:16,17, “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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”
- B. But how are we saved through Jesus Christ?
1. Jesus said in John 5:24, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”
  2. Matt. 7:21, “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”
  3. John 8:31, “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.”
  4. So we see that we are saved through Jesus Christ when we:
    - a. Hear the Word.
    - b. Believe in God and Jesus.
    - c. Do the will of the Father.
    - d. Continue in the Word.
- C. Everything that God wants us to know and do is found in His Word.
1. II Peter 1:3, “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.”
  2. By studying His Word, we learn that God saves us and forgives us of our sins when we:
    - a. Hear His Word. Rom.10:17, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
    - b. Believe. I Tim.1:16, “Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.”
    - c. Repent. Acts 3:19, “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...”
    - d. Confess. Rom.10:9, “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.”
    - e. Baptized. Ac 2:38&41, “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit...Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”
  3. What a precious gift God is willing to give each and everyone of us that is

willing to turn our lives over to Him and obey His commands. Then, and only then, can we be assured that our sins have been forgiven.

D. But our obedience to God doesn't end there. Throughout our lives we must remain faithful to His Word.

1. Rev.2:10, "...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

E. That brings us to our last point we want to discuss.

## V. God's Word Will Judge Us.

A. One thing that needs to be impressed upon the minds of all people is that, even though our physical bodies do not live forever, our souls do. And one day we will give an account of ourselves to God for the deeds we have done in the body.

1. Rom.14:12, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

2. Heb. 9:27, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

B. By what standard will we be judged?

1. We will not be judged by:

- a. What our parents, friends, neighbors, etc. say.
- b. What I feel is right.
- c. A creed book, or any other book, except the Bible.
- d. What somebody else does or doesn't do.

2. So what is it that will judge us?

a. God's Powerful Word. Jesus said,

1. John 12:48, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."

3. So what is it that will judge us in the last day? God's Word, the Bible. That is why it is so important that we read and study our Bibles. Only by studying can we come to know what God expects of us.

C. As we have seen, our lives and this world will not last forever.

1. James 4:14, "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

a. Life goes by in a hurry. And the older we get the more we realize that fact. Where did the time go? Or more important, What did I do with the time? Did I spend it in service to God or rebellion to God?

2. II Peter 3:10-12, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?"

a. He says, knowing that the world will not last forever, we should ask ourselves, "What kind of person should I be?" Answer: A person that obeys the Word of God!

## **VI. Conclusion.**

- A. As we have seen, by the Power of God's Word He:
  - 1. Created the heavens and the earth.
  - 2. Created Us.
  - 3. Calls Us.
  - 4. Saves Us.
  - 5. Judges Us.
- B. God has not left us in the dark concerning what he expects of us. As we noted earlier, II Peter 1:3, says that God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. Therefore, there will be no excuse in the day of judgment, "But God! I didn't know!"
- C. God has done everything that He can do to bring about our salvation so that we can be His children and spend eternity with Him. God's Word truly is, "...quick and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword..."
- D. The question is, are you ready and willing to take advantage of that great power to make your life right with God?

God's Word Is Powerful!