

## A Man's Word

Psalm 15:1-5; John 1:1-18 / 2 Peter 1:16-21

### I. A Man's Word Matters

**A. The psalmist connected the integrity of a man's word with his place in God's house.** A PSALM OF DAVID. ***LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?*** (PSALM 15:1)

**B. The godly person speaks the truth from the heart.** He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and ***speaketh the truth in his heart.*** (PSALM 15:2)

**C. The godly person will not let his work hurt another person.** ***He that backbiteth not with his tongue,*** nor doeth evil to his neighbour, ***nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.*** (PSALM 15:3)

**D. The godly person cares more about his promise than about what it may cost him to keep that promise.** In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. ***He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.*** (PSALM 15:4)

**E. The godly person's word anchors life.** ***He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.*** (PSALM 15:5)

**F. A believer's faithfulness calls to mind God's faithfulness.** ***Cast thy burden upon the LORD,*** and ***he shall sustain thee:*** he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. (PSALM 55:22)

### II. Jesus Is God's Word

**A. St. John the Evangelist used the term WORD to explain God.** ***In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*** The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ***In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*** And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. (JOHN 1:1-5)

**B. St. John the Baptist made the same testimony.** There was a man sent from God, whose name was ***John.*** The same ***came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light,*** that all *men* through him might believe. ***He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.*** (JOHN 1:6-8) John bare witness of him, and cried, ***saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.*** (JOHN 1:15)

**C. Just as a man's word reflects the unity, depth, and integrity of his heart, Jesus reflects the center of God.** Giving thanks unto ***the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:*** Who hath ***delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:*** In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: ***Who is the image of the invisible God,*** the firstborn of every creature: (COLOSSIANS 1:12-15)

**D. Jesus understood personally what it cost to remain faithful to a commitment.** And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, ***O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*** (MATTHEW 26:39) He went away

again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, ***if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.*** (MATTHEW 26:42)

**E. To be like Jesus one must have a fixed and steady purpose to be of one mind about the things of God. *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God,* that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask *in faith, nothing wavering.* For ***he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.*** For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. ***A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*** (JAMES 1:5-8) ***Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*** (JAMES 4:8)**

### III. Take God's Word on God's Terms

**A. God gave His word to His people. *We have also a more sure word of prophecy;* whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that ***no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.*** (2 PETER 1:19-20)**

**B. The wonderful promises of Scripture focus on Jesus and He illustrates the reliability of God to keep His Word. *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.* And if I go and prepare a place for you, *I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.* And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, ***I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*** (JOHN 14:1-6)**

**C. A believer's word means more to a believer who understands what God's word means to God. *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.* (PSALM 119:11)**

**LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. *He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.* (PSALM 15:1,4)**