

**"THE EFFECT OF THE SCRIPTURE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE IT"**

**1 THESSALONIANS 2:13**

INTRO: Over the years in my pastoral ministry, I have received the following statements from people regarding the Word of God:

- 1) Pastor, I try to read the Bible but never get anything from it.
- 2) Pastor, I get so much out of the Bible I never want to put it down.

WHY IS THERE SUCH A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE'S RESPONSES WHO CLAIM TO KNOW THE LORD REGARDING WHAT THEY GET FROM THE SCRIPTURE?

- Perhaps one is NOT REALLY SAVED
- Perhaps one is NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM GOD
- Perhaps one DOES NOT REALLY BELIEVE THE WORD OF GOD
- Perhaps one is SAVED AND WANTS TO HEAR FROM GOD

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU? **WHAT DO YOU GET FROM THE BIBLE DAILY?** Today we are going to study from 1 Thessalonians HOW EFFECTIVE THE WORD OF GOD IS in the lives of those who TRULY BELIEVE IT.

OBSERVATION: In our text for today, the missionary team of Paul, Silas and Timothy are expressing thanks to God for the way the Thessalonians were receiving the Word of God. Let's study it with the intent of learning how to receive from the Bible all that God wants us to receive.

**OBSERVE SOME WORDS IN THE VERSE**

- 1) "RECEIVED" #1: "PARALAMBANO" = "To receive from another, to learn, and to hear with our EAR."
- 2) "RECEIVED" #2: "DECHOMAI" = "To accept, to appropriate and to hear with the HEART."
- 3) "EFFECTUALLY": "ENERGEO" = "To energize and activate in a fervent way."
- 4) "BELIEVE": "PISTEUO" = "To Commit and to have complete confidence in."

**THE POINT OF THE VERSE FOR THE THESSALONIANS**

The Missionary team was continually thanking God for the fact that the Thessalonians HEARD, RECEIVED, AND HAD CONFIDENCE IN THE WORD OF GOD to the point that it CONTINUED TO WORK IN THEIR LIVES.

**THE REALITY OF THE VERSE FOR US**

When WE HEAR, RECEIVE AND HAVD CONFIDENCE IN THE WORD OF GOD it will WORK IN OUR LIVES AS WELL.

**THE EFFECTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND RECEPTION OF THE SCRIPTURE**

***I. THE SCRIPTURE IS THE WORD OF GOD, NOT THE WORD OF MEN***

NOTE: Deuteronomy 6:6-9; Proverbs 30:5,6; Galatians 1:11,12 Timothy 3:16

**SOME TERMS TO CONSIDER**

- A. REVELATION: God Revealed His Truth to Human Authors – Revelation 1:1,2
- B. INSPIRATION: God Kept His Revealed Truth from Error – 2 Timothy 3:16
- C. ILLUIMINATION: God Teaches His Revealed Truth to Believers – John 14:26
- D. PRESERVATION: God Preserves His Revealed Truth Forever – Psalm 119:89

***II. THE SCRIPTURE IS THE TRUTH OF GOD AND IS ABSOLUTE TRUTH***

NOTE: John 17:17

- A. God's Word as TRUTH expresses EVERYTHING He wants Mankind to Know about Him.
- B. God's Word as TRUTH reveals the UNCHANGING STANDARD He maintains for the Course and Character of the Christian Life (THE BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW).
- C. God's Word as TRUTH reveals the ABSOLUTE CRITERION by which He wants the World to Function.
- D. God's Word as TRUTH is to be RECEIVED COMPLETELY by every Believer.
- E. God's Word as TRUTH presents the IMMUTIBLE DIRECTIVES for the Church.

### **III. THE SCRIPTURE IS THE OPERATION OF GOD, ACTIVELY ENERGIZING BELIEVERS**

NOTE: 2 Timothy 3:17

A FACT TO CONSIDER: GOD WORKS THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE IT DAILY, EFFECTIVELY, EFFICIENTLY, PRODUCTIVELY AND SUPERNATURALLY FULFILLING HIS PURPOSES IN THEIR LIVES.

- A. The Scripture **SAVES** those who Believe it – 1 Peter 1:23
- B. The Scripture **SANCTIFIES** those who Believe it – John 17:17
- C. The Scripture **MATURES** those who Believe it – 1 Peter 2:2
- D. The Scripture **FREES** those who Believe it – John 8:31,32
- E. The Scripture **PERFECTS** those who Believe it – 2 Timothy 3:16,17
- F. The Scripture **COUNSELS** those who Believe it – Acts 20:32a
- G. The Scripture **GIVES HOPE** to those who Believe it – Acts 20:32b
- H. The Scripture **ENSURES SUCCESS** to those who Believe it – Joshua 1:8
- I. The Scripture **BUILDS FAITH** in those who Believe it – Romans 10:17

NOTE: **HUMAN WISDOM COULD NEVER PRODUCE WHAT THE SCRIPTURE, AS THE POWERFUL WORD OF GOD, DOES IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE IT!**

#### **APPLICATION AND LESSONS**

1) The Effect of the Scripture in the Lives of those who believe it is beyond one's greatest imagination.

2) The Effect of the Scripture guarantees that **WHATEVER** our spiritual needs are, the **APPLICATION OF THE WORD OF GOD MEETS THOSE NEEDS. HOW DOES ONE APPLY THE WORD OF GOD?**

- Read it.
- Study it
- Meditate upon it
- Obey it
- Receive it
- Watch it Work