

THE WONDERFUL WORD OF GOD

God's Word in Hebrews 4:12 says: "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." This passage presents some of the characteristics of God's word. Let's look at these and allow them to give us a better appreciation of the capabilities of God's Word.

God's word is wonderful because it is living (meaning of "quick" KJV). In Jhn 6:63 Jesus said the words He spoke were spirit and life. There are at least three evidences of the vitality of God's word. There is its continued and unimpaired existence. Throughout history there have been many assaults on the Bible. If it was not the living Word of God, and He didn't intend for it to stand, it would have been destroyed long ago. Jesus said in Matt 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. Then there is the fact of the adaptation of God's Word to all ages and all people. It is as true and living today as almost 2,000 years ago. Man's books become obsolete! Consider the continual changes made in school textbooks. Think about how out of date a science text book of 25 yrs ago would be today, much less almost 2,000 years. But the Bible is as up-to-date as tomorrow's newspaper. Scriptures know no limitation of time. Also think about its inexhaustible interest. A century ago a British theologian wrote, "For 18 centuries men have thought and written upon that one book, and if for 18 centuries more men are permitted to write, no one will have begun to exhaust its contents." God's word is so deep that even the greatest minds cannot exhaust its treasures. Yet a child can wade into its contents and understand its greatest truths. The apostle Peter said we are "born again" by the Word of God, which he said was incorruptible 1Pet 1:23. This shows that God's word begets life, it gives us spiritual life. Because God's Word is living it can and will give us eternal life Jhn 6:68

The Word of God is wonderful because it has power. It is God's power to save according to Rom 1:16. It has within it the ability, when it is heard, to produce faith Rom 10:17. On the day of Pentecost it was powerful enough to convict men that they had been guilty of crucifying the Son of God and that He was now Lord and Christ Acts 2:36, 37. Jeremiah described God's word as being like a hammer that breaks rocks in pieces Jer 23:29. God's Word has the power to not only convict, but also to convert sinners Psa 19:7. James says it is able (powerful enough) to save souls Jas 1:21. It is also powerful enough to correct faults and errors 2Tim 3:16, 17; 1Tim 5:20.

The Word of God is also described in this text as being "sharp", even sharper than a "twoedged" sword. It is able to "divide" that which man cannot.

Paul, in Eph 6:17 says the sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. Rev 1:6 describes one like the "son of man" (Jesus) as having a sharp twoedged sword going out of his mouth. God's word cuts to the "quick", that is, it has the Power to prick the heart of the most callused individual, if they will gladly receive it as did those on Pentecost Acts 2:41. This should cause us to be filled with wonder at the ability of God's Word to get to the "heart" of a matter

Very closely connected with the idea of God's Word being sharp is the fact that it is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. God's inspired word has analyzed, dissected, and laid open sinful man. If man would know himself, he must know the Book for it can truly know how and what man thinks. It exercises critical and separating principles. It reveals man to himself. James describes the Word of God as a mirror in which a man can look and see himself as he really is. Jas 1:21-25

Although Heb 4:12 doesn't make this point, we must recognize the wonderfulness of God's Word because it is final and eternal. Paul and Peter both show that God's word is the final authority; there will not be another revelation. 2Tim 3:16, 17; 2Pet 1:3. Paul and John both make it clear that it must not be added to, not even an angel from heaven can make changes in it. Gal 1:6-9; Rev 22:18, 19. It is final and complete and Jesus said His Word would not pass away Matt 24:35. The apostle Peter makes it very plain when he said "the Word of the Lord endureth forever. 1Pet 1:25.

Don't you want the wonderful Word of God to be that which directs every phase of your life? If you do, then you must hear, believe and obey what it says. That involves repenting of sins, confessing faith in Christ as the Son of God and being baptized for the remission of sins Rom 10:17; 6:17; Lk 13:3; Acts 2:38 Rom 10:9,10; Acts 22:16. Those who have completed their obedience must not only continue to study the wonderful Word of God, they must also be involved in teaching it to others 2Tim 4:2; Jude 1:3

God's Word is truly wonderful because it is living and powerful. It is able to cut to heart of man and bring him under conviction in such a way that he will allow the wonderful Word of God to rule his life and by so doing realize that God will bless him with an eternal home in heaven with Him.