

The Word of God! What is the Word of God in Context?

What is the word of God? How do you define the word of God? What are you using to define the word of God? What evidence do you provide to justify your definition? Is your definition backed up by anything in the bible or it is just a feeling or what you think it means?

When the bible mentions the word of God, what is it referring to? How is the word of God understood in the biblical context? The people in the bible what did they understand the word of God as? Is your definition of the word of God the same as the one from the one defined in the bible?

Let's dive into the biblical definition of the Word of God.

Deuteronomy 5:31–32

“But as for you, stand here by Me, and I will speak to you all the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments which you shall teach them, that they may observe them in the land which I am giving them to possess. Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.”

- ⇒ From the verse above we see that God directly from his mouth gave Moses the Words which he was supposed to deliver to the children of Israel.
- ⇒ And the Word which God gave Moses here was the Torah.
- ⇒ These are the direct words spoken by God himself.
- ⇒ The Torah was not the invention of Moses
- ⇒ This verse testifies to the Torah being the word of God.

Deuteronomy 5:5

“I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to declare to you the word of the LORD; for you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up the mountain.”

- ⇒ From the verse above, we see Moses calling the Words which he received from God Directly, The Word of God.
- ⇒ Moses explicitly says he told the Israelites the Word of God which is the Torah.
- ⇒ The Words that Moses received was the Torah
- ⇒ This verse testifies to the Torah being the Word of God.

Deuteronomy 6:1–3

“Now this is the commandment, and these are the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe them in the land which you are crossing over to possess, that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.

Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you—‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’”

- ⇒ In the verses above we see Moses teaching the Israelites the word of God which he received from God.
- ⇒ He gave them the word of God as he received it.
- ⇒ We know Moses taught them the Torah which is called the law of Moses but is in fact the direct words of God.
- ⇒ These words were directly commanded by God, they were spoken by him explicitly, they are his **COMMANDS**.

Exodus 24:3–4

“So Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, ‘All the words which the LORD has said we will do.’ And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD. And he rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel.”

- ⇒ This verse testifies to Moses telling the children of Israel the Words of God.
- ⇒ What were these words?
- ⇒ We know they were the Torah, the way they were supposed to walk.
- ⇒ Moses spoke the words of God, not his.

Deuteronomy 4:2

“You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.”

- ⇒ They were told not to add any word to the word of God.
- ⇒ In simple They were not supposed to add any words or remove any word from the commands of God, which are the Words of God, which is the Torah.
- ⇒ By this we see the word of God is complete and doesn’t need anything on top or removed from it, it is enough just as it is. The Torah is enough just as it is because the Torah is the Word that God spoke to Moses.

Deuteronomy 8:3

“So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.”

- ⇒ This is what Jesus quoted, the word which we are to live by.
- ⇒ Which Word proceeded out of the mouth of the living God? The Torah

- ⇒ This verse says we are to live by the Torah, which the word that came directly from God.

Deuteronomy 11:18 – “Lay Up God’s Words in Your Heart”

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.”

- ⇒ The word of God was always meant to be in their hearts (which see happening here Jeremiah 31 – The new covenant)
- ⇒ They were supposed to put the Torah in their hearts because the Torah is the word God, words which he spoke.

Deuteronomy 30:10–14

“If you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ‘For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, “Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?” Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?” But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.’”

- ⇒ Should echo when Jesus said the sheep know my voice
- ⇒ The word was always supposed to be in the heart not anywhere else and the word is the Torah.
- ⇒ Them having it in their mouth and heart, they were going to obey it but they did not put it in their heart or mouth hence we get the new covenant.
- ⇒ They had the words given to them, they were not in a very far place where they couldn’t reach them, they had them and were supposed to internalise the word, they were supposed to internalise the Torah.
- ⇒ Paul even quotes this in Romans 10:6-8
- ⇒ **Romans 10:6–8**

6 But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down from above)

7 or, “ ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

From the verses above, we see that Moses wrote and taught the word of God. The word that came directly from God himself as an instruction to the children of Israel, which is why it is called the Torah. The Torah is the word of God Moses gave to the children of Israel. From this we see that everyone in the context of the bible understood the Word of God to be Torah, even Jesus and Paul as they have also quoted this word.

Isaiah 40:8

**“The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the word of our God stands forever.”**

- ⇒ Now in the context of Isaiah, the only word of God he would know is the Word taught by Moses.
- ⇒ We established that the word taught by Moses was the Torah and it was stated that it is the word of God.
- ⇒ So This is the word that Isaiah would be familiar with.
- ⇒ So when Isaiah says the Word of God stands forever, he is basically saying The Torah of God stands forever, the instructions given to Moses stand forever. The law of Moses stands forever.
- ⇒ This is because the Torah is the Word of God as already established.

We see Peter quoting the above verse in 1 Peter 1:23-25

1 Peter 1:23–25 – “The Enduring Word”

**Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,
because**

**“All flesh is as grass,
And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.
The grass withers,
And its flower falls away,
But the word of the LORD endures forever.”
Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.**

- ⇒ Peter directly quotes Isaiah 40:8
- ⇒ The very same word Isaiah knew is the same one Peter knew which is why he quoted Isaiah
- ⇒ That word is the Torah.
- ⇒ From the above verse, we see Isaiah and Peter had the same understanding of what the word of God was and that is the Torah.
- ⇒ This is the word they were to live by, just as seen in Deuteronomy 8:3 and also quoted by Jesus.

Isaiah 55:10–11 – “God’s Word Will Not Return Void”

**“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there,
But water the earth,
And make it bring forth and bud,
That it may give seed to the sower
And bread to the eater,
So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”**

- ⇒ The word of will do what it was sent to do
- ⇒ The Torah will do what it was sent to do and it will do its job, it will not return empty.
- ⇒ The Torah is the word that went forth from the mouth of the living God as already established.

We see that even during the time of Jesus and the apostles, the Torah was still regarded as the word of God. It was the only known word of God.

John 17:14–17 – “Jesus Prays for His Disciples”

I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

- ⇒ Jesus said he gave the people the Word of God.
- ⇒ We know the Torah is the word of God.
- ⇒ Jesus himself quoted Deuteronomy 8:3 to show that he knew the Torah to be word of God. Matthew 4:4
- ⇒ And as we have established that the definition of the word of God did not change from the times of Moses to the times of the apostles.
- ⇒ The Word Jesus says he gave to the people here is the Torah.
- ⇒ This Word of God is called the Truth.

John 15:10

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love

- ⇒ Jesus said he spoke only what the Father said.
- ⇒ He said he taught the Word of God.
- ⇒ Then his commands have to be the same as the Fathers commands.
- ⇒ Thus his commands are the same ones given to Moses.
- ⇒ He said kept the commands of God which are The Torah, and thus we see him say he came to fulfil the law and not to abolish it. Matthew 5:17

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

- ⇒ We established that the Torah is the Word of God that stands forever.
- ⇒ From the above passage, we see that The Torah, which is the Word of God is living and powerful.
- ⇒ That is why we see Jesus quoting it when he was being tested. Matthew 4:4
- ⇒ He used it as a sword.
- ⇒ The Torah tells you if you are walking contrary to God or not, it judges you, it judges your intents and all your plans.

Ephesians 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

- ⇒ We saw Jesus use this sword when he was being tempted.
- ⇒ He quoted the Word of God, which is the Torah.
- ⇒ And that Word he quoted said, is to live by these words and the words are the Torah.
- ⇒ The Torah is spiritual as we told in Romans 7:4 that is why it is the sword of the spirit.

We see that the word of God is called the Truth. So what is the truth?

John 17:17

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

- ⇒ Since we see that the the Word of God is the Torah then the Torah is Truth.
- ⇒ But does the bible testify of this?

Psalm 119:142

**Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness,
And Your law is truth.**

- ⇒ We see that the Torah is called the Truth in the bible from this passage.

Psalm 119:151

**You are near, O LORD,
And all Your commandments are truth.**

- ⇒ Even this verse testifies to the Torah being the Truth and the Torah is the Word of God.

From the above verses, we see that the Word of God is the Truth and that Word of God is the Torah meaning that the Torah is the Truth. The Torah is Word directly spoken by God to Moses to give to the children of Israel that is why it is Called the Word of God. The bible defined the Word of God as the Torah, as the words directly spoken by God, this includes the prophets. This Word of God is the Truth and it stands forever, that is why we see Jesus saying the following:

Matthew 5:17–18

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

- ⇒ NOT EVEN A SINGLE LETTER WILL GO AWAY OR STOP BEING TRUE OR NOT APPLICABLE FROM THE TORAH, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD. THE WORD OF GOD DOES NOT NEED ADDITIONS OR REMOVALS, IT IS PERFECT THE WAY IT IS. THE TORAH STANDS FOREVER.
- ⇒ HE CAME TO FULFILL THE LAW NOT ABOLISH IT.