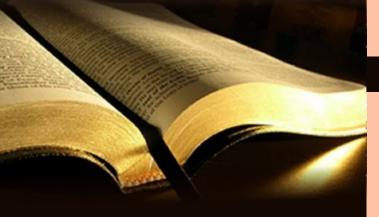


FOUNDATION OF FAITH

CLASS 2
INTEGRITY OF GOD'S WORD



Class Objective:

To understand the integrity and the role of God's word in our lives.

Outline:

Introduction

- 1. The Nature of God
- 2. The Reality of God's word.

Introduction

Integrity is defined as incorruptibility, a state of being whole, honest and fair. It is consistency of character and nature, trustworthiness and purity. God's nature and character is integrity. He remains incorruptible, trustworthy and consistent eternally. The integrity of His Word is based on His person and character.

All things, both tangible and intangible, were created by God through his word. The material world we see today was created and is sustained by the Word of God. (Hebrews 1:3, John 1:1-4)

John 1:1-4 captures the essence of this. "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 anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

1. The Nature of God

John 1:1 tells us that God and His word is one and the same. So, to understand the integrity of God's Word, let's consider His nature.

- He is Consistent and Unchanging: He has been the same from the ages (Hebrews 13:8). He has no variations, remains the same, cannot be improved upon nor can be reduced (James 1:17).
- **He is Eternal:** God exists endlessly. From everlasting to everlasting, He is God (Psalm 102:27, Revelation 22:13).
- **He is Self-existing:** God existed before the earth and time began. He is "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:13-14).

The definition of integrity is incorruptibility, a state of being whole, honest and fair, consistency of character and nature. God, by nature and character, remains consistent eternally. The integrity of His Word is based on His person and character.

2. Reality of God's Word

- The word of God is "Truth" (John 17:17). Jesus declared the Word of God to be "truth" which means reality.
- The word of God is as real as God Himself. (John1:1). The Word contains the very life of God (John 6: 63). This same Word became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ and dwelt among us (John 1:14).
- The word of God is God's primary way of speaking and revealing His will to us in this dispensation (Hebrew 1: 1-2)
- The word of God is potent and powerful; able to produce tangible manifestations (Isaiah 55:10-11, Hebrew 4: 12).
- The word of God is everlasting (Isaiah 40:8; 1Peter1:23-25). The promises of the scriptures are unchanging even in our days. They are unadulterated and very much alive in the life of anyone that receives it.
- The word of God is REAL.

3. God's Covenant and the Promise

Having established that God and His Word are real, unchanging and unadulterated, we should get to know the covenants that God has provided in His Word for us. In scriptures, God's relationship with man is based upon and mediated through covenants. God made His promise to Abraham and because He wanted to make it abundantly clear that His promises are immutable, He confirmed it with an oath. God swore by Himself so that we, the heirs of the promise will be certain that God will keep His covenant. (Hebrews 6:13-18, Genesis 15).

As believers we have inherited the blessing of Abraham. Every one of us inherited the Abrahamic covenant and blessing through Christ. (Galatians 3: 14,29, Genesis 12:2-3).

These are some of the covenants we enjoy in Christ:

- a. Covenant of healing and health. Healing and health are covenant rights established in God's word for every believer. (Isaiah 53:1-5; Exodus 15:26, 23:25).
- **b.** Covenant of Wealth. God gives us the power to get wealth to establish His covenant with us. (Deuteronomy 8:18; 28:11).
- **c.** Covenant of Peace. God promises to make a covenant of peace with us (Ezekiel 34:25-27; 37:26) and He fulfilled this covenant in Christ (Ephesians 2:14, John 14:27).
- **d. Covenant of Divine Protection.** Because of our relationship with Him, God has promised us Divine protection. (Psalm 91:1-15; Isaiah 43:2; Isaiah 54:15-17; Job 1:10).

4. The Effect of Filling our Hearts with God's Word

We fill our hearts with God's word by studying, confessing and meditating on God's word. Filling our hearts with the word helps us to know and experience what God has provided for us and how He wants us to live. (Colossians 3:16, Jeremiah 15:16, Joshua 1:8).

This goes beyond mental assent. God has given us **the Helper - the Holy Spirit,** who helps us to understand the word of God and reveals God's will in His word to us (John 14:26, 1 Corinthians 2:12; 2 Corinthians 3:6).

a. The word of God in our heart gives the Holy Spirit the right environment to sanctify, cleanse and transform us. (John 15:3; 17:17; Ephesians 5:17-

- 18, 26; Romans 12:1-2).
- b. God communicates with us through His word. God's word is His primary way of speaking and revealing His will to us in this dispensation (Hebrews 1:1-2).
- c. Meditating on and confessing God's word makes us productive and prosperous (*Psalm 1:2-3, Joshua 1:8*).
- d. The word makes us live above sin (Psalm 119:11, 1 John 3:9, Luke 6:45).
- e. When we are filled with God's word, we can pray effectively (John 15:7, 1 John 15:14).

5. Our Attitude towards God's Word

Experiencing the realities of God's word in our lives starts with paying rapt attention to what God says concerning us and acknowledging every good that is in us in Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 4:15; 2 Timothy 2:15, Philemon 1:6)

- a. Read and meditate on the Word of God daily. Have your set study time and keep to it. (Psalms 119: 9, 11, Joshua 1:8, 2 Timothy 2;15).
- b. Continuously seek to discover the truth through the help of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:26).
- c. Believe God's word and let God's word define your lives. (Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 21:22).
- d. Do not interpret the Word of God by your experiences. Let God be True (Romans 3:4, John 17:17).
- e. Speak the word only. (Matthew 8:8, Romans 10: 8-10)

Summary/Conclusion

There is integrity in the word of God. The Word of God cannot fail and will always produce its intended result (Isaiah 55: 10-11). We are who He says we are and can do what He says we can. God always does His part. We also must do our part by studying and meditating on

the Word of God to know Him better; believing and receive revelations of what he has done for us.

<u>Appendix - Some "In Him" Scriptures:</u>

Meditate on these scriptures and select a few to personalize and confess continuously with the help of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ Jesus: Romans 6:11; Romans 8:1-2; 2 Corinthians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 3:26; Ephesians 1:3; Ephesians 2:6; Ephesians 2:10; Ephesians 2:13; Ephesians 5:8; Ephesians 6:10.

Through/By Christ Jesus: Philippians 4:7; Philippians 4:13; 1 Corinthians 15:57; 2 Corinthians 5:18; Galatians 4:7; Philippians 1:11; Hebrews 13:20-21

In Him/Whom; Through Him/Whom: 2 Corinthians 5:21 Ephesians 1:4; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 2:10; 1 John 4:13; Ephesians 3:12; Colossians 1:14; Romans 1:5; Romans 5:2

<u>With Christ/Him:</u> Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:5; Colossians 3:1; Colossians 3:3; Romans 8:32

Class Activity

Spend the next 15 minutes to meditate on the In Him Scriptures provided in the class note. Form your personal confection with the scriptures that speak most and declare them repeatedly.

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