

June 3, 2018

God Has Spoken 2 Peter 1:16-21

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

When Jesus spoke in the first century, scribes took down His words, and these words are in the New Testament. We search the Scriptures because they _____ from God. No other book contains the wisdom, the prophecies, and the righteous commandments found in the Holy Bible. The Bible is the only book in the _____ that offers objective evidence to be the Word of God. Only the Bible gives real _____ of its divine inspiration through its fulfillment of prophecy. No other book can give us the _____ about the beginning or the end of time. The Scriptures _____ us to Jesus Christ, providing testimony from witnesses of His death, burial, and resurrection. The more you _____ the Bible, the clearer your knowledge of God will become.

Read how Hugo McCord explained the concept of inspiration.

Our reading today comes from 2 Peter 1:16-21. Peter is describing how prophetic utterances, the Scriptures, came about through inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Have you considered the _____ of God's Words? God speaks and things _____. "Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light" (Genesis 1:3). God spoke _____ into existence. Psalm 33:6 says, "By the word of the LORD the heavens were _____, And by the breath of His mouth all their host." Verse 9 says, "For He spoke, and it was _____; He commanded, and it stood _____." If God could speak creation into existence, then He has far greater _____ than we can imagine or understand.

The Words of Jesus are likewise powerful and authoritative. Colossians 1:16-17 reminds us, "For by him _____ things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together." When Jesus spoke, _____ happened.

Jesus taught with _____ in the synagogue in Capernaum. **Read Mark 1:23-27.**

Jesus not only had authority over unclean spirits, He also had authority over _____. This power is shown frequently in the New Testament. **Read Matthew 8:23-27.**

God speaks with great power and authority, and all of nature and the universe _____. Man is the only creature that can _____ what God says and ignore or disobey Him. When people _____ the Word of the Lord they face great consequences. Some people don't take God seriously, but God has shown through time that He _____ what He says. Some think God will not _____ anyone no matter what that person does.

When you hear the words of the Lord Jesus, remember that He _____ you and sustains your existence. Without His power over creation, you couldn't _____. He deserves to be

heard! One day the words that He has spoken will be the standard for your _____. The Lord Jesus said, "He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the _____ I spoke is what will judge him at the last day" (John 12:48), Since the words of Jesus will judge you, you should _____ what He said and take it seriously. The words of Jesus will not disappear, and Jesus will not _____ what He said. What Jesus said is just as _____ today as it was in the first century. Changes in time and culture do not _____ what the Lord said. No one can _____ the words of Jesus on the Day of Judgment. The Lord said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

The Lord Jesus said, "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He _____ in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels" (Luke 9:26). Many people regard Jesus as a great moral teacher, but then they feel _____ to disagree with Him or ignore Him. What Jesus says about moral issues _____ some Christians. They imagine that Jesus doesn't _____ whether they live righteously or not. They listen to what He says about salvation, but _____ what He says about repentance. They want Jesus as their Savior, but not as their _____ and Master. They want all of His _____, but they dismiss His commandments.

How we _____ to the Lord matters, and what we teach and practice will affect how the Lord judges us. Second Peter 2:3 speaks about some disobedient _____ teachers. The apostle Peter said, "and in their greed they will exploit you with _____ words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep." The Lord is not asleep or idle; He sees and knows what the righteous and the wicked are doing. He will _____ us all.

Peter explains, "For if God did not _____ angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter; and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), then the Lord knows how to _____ the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment" (2 Peter 2:4-9). Since the Lord has a record of how He _____ with sin, we should take Him seriously.

When we become Christians, we _____ Jesus as Lord. Jesus built the _____ and purchased it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). When we were forgiven, He redeemed us with His precious blood and _____ us to the church. The word Lord describes Jesus as _____, as the One who created us. Philippians 2:9-11 says, "God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is _____ every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every

tongue will _____ that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Because He is Lord, everyone will be _____ to His authority. He is our Lord and Master, and there is no other. As Lord, He has _____ authority over our lives on earth and in the hereafter. Second Corinthians 5:10 says, “For we must all _____ before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Because Jesus is Lord, His Words will judge our souls and determine our _____ in the hereafter. Hebrews 4:12-13 says, “For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to _____ the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature _____ from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” God knows all about you and me; He knows the good and the bad. He knows our thought and our intentions. We cannot _____ anything from the Lord; He already knows all our _____. We ought to listen to the Lord!

I’m thankful the Lord Jesus spoke because He not only _____ right and wrong but also gives us the words of eternal life. He gives us great and precious _____. Paul said, “For God, who said, ‘Light shall shine out of darkness,’ is the One who has shown in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ” (2 Corinthians 4:6).

Without the Scriptures, without the Bible, we would not _____ many things. We wouldn’t know about where we came from, why we’re here, or what will happen to us after this life is over. The Scriptures give us _____ of eternal life with our Creator, who loves us and wants to bless us eternally.

The Scriptures _____ us about God’s grace and forgiveness. When we realize the extent to which God has gone to _____ our sins, we love Him more and more. We are all sinners saved by the grace of God through the gospel message by the blood of Jesus Christ when we _____ Him. The message of that salvation is found in Scripture and it’s crucial. Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the _____ of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16). God powerfully uses His Word to reach into our _____ with the gospel. First Corinthians 1:21 says, “For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to _____ those who believe.” God saves people today through that message preached.

Jesus said, “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be _____ of God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me” (John 6:44-45). God works in and through the preaching and teaching of the word to _____ men of sin and to bring about faith. Romans 10:17 says, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.” When we _____ God’s Word, we come to believe in Jesus Christ and in His

teaching. This is why James says, “Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in _____ receive the word implanted, which is able to _____ your souls” (James 1:21).

The Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, causes us to be _____ again. First Peter 1:23-25 says, “for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring _____ of God. For, ‘All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls off, but the word of the Lord endures _____.’ And this is the word which was _____ to you.” When a person _____ the preaching of the gospel and _____ it, God causes him to be born again. The gospel story is filled with God’s love for mankind and His willingness to send Jesus to atone for our sins and grant us forgiveness. This true story comes from God and has all of His qualities. His goodness and kindness lead us to _____. His love causes us to love Him!

Because the gospel is good news, it brings about a _____ unspeakable! Sin is bad news, but forgiveness from sin that condemns us, is good news! Hope for eternal life is good news! The Lord Jesus preparing a _____ for us in heaven is good news! God has spoken through His Son Jesus and in the gospel message. What a blessing!

Peter, James, and John were on the holy mountain with Jesus when He was transfigured. Moses and Elijah were there as well. Matthew 17:4-5 says Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is _____ that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; _____ to him.” God, the Father, was well pleased with Jesus His Son, so He distinguished Him from Moses, the great lawgiver, and Elijah, the prophet. God said, “listen to Him.”

Hebrews 1:1-2 says, “God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has _____ to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.” God is now speaking to us through Jesus Christ. If we want to know God’s _____, we must go to the words of Jesus and His apostles and prophets that He commissioned to speak for Him. That’s found in the New Testament. Jesus is Lord, and there is no other!

If you wish to _____ the Lord, then listen to Him. Hear what He says and _____ Him. Hebrews 11:6 says, “And without faith it is impossible to _____ Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.” Repent of your sins and turn to righteousness. Confess that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Be baptized into Christ, immersed in water, for the forgiveness of your sins. God has spoken; let’s _____ what He says and _____ Him. Nothing is so important!