

REPENTANCE: A CHANGE OF MIND ABOUT GOD'S WORD

In Isaiah 66:2 God says He will look on the one “who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.” In John 8:47 Jesus said, “He who is of God hears God’s words”. Paul in recounting the conversion of the Thessalonians said, “you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe” (1 Thess. 2:13).

The condemnation of the unbelievers in 2 Thessalonians 2:10 is because “they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.” John says, “whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.” (1 Jn. 2:5).

A person cannot be separated from their word. What one thinks about a person they think about their word and what they think about their word they think about the person. How one regards God’s Word is really a reflection of how they regard God Himself. Jesus made it very clear that the one rejecting Him was rejecting His Word and then said, “the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.” (Jn. 12:48).

In the end everyone is in one of TWO camps. Either they BELIEVE the Word of God or they DISBELIEVE. In the end there are believers and there are unbelievers.

Acts 28:24 (NKJV)

24 And some were persuaded by the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved.

The Bible

“This Book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler’s map, the pilgrim’s staff, the pilot’s compass, the soldier’s sword and the Christian’s character. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good is its design and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is given you in life and will be opened in the judgment and will be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.”

--Robert Cleaver Chapman

Revelation 20:12 (NKJV)

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

Isaiah 40:8 (NKJV)

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