

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

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My Best Friend and Companion Among the Tangible Things of this Worldly Realm

It has been said by many over the years, that a dog is a man’s best friend. Dear brethren there is much validity in that statement, for a dog will obey its Master till death in many occasions. They will come when called, wagging their tails as if it were a mechanical machine at their Masters voice and presence. Will lay down at their Master feet and be faithful in many things, such as protection from strangers, and other animals as well. Yet, to the Christian called of God into the kingdom of God’s dear Son through the new birth, finds a companion that surpasses anything of the material tangible realm.

This “Best Friend & Companion” which has entered into my life as a believer, is the Word of God, The Holy Bible which has been preserved by God for us in the English language translation since the 1611 KJV was compiled, although the KJV was not the first English translation, it has become what has been determined as the most reliable and used by God for 396 years in the instruction and revelation of God’s divine truth. I am persuaded that the KJV was not compiled with its poetic beauty by coincidence, but as God had divinely inspired even though the composition was separated into verses and Chapters years after its translation was complete and the book put to print.

The following description of my “Best Friend and Companion” in the non-human aspect gives you, dear brethren, a reason why it means so much to me.

A. *t* is the book of the Ages:

“Forever, O Lord, thy word is forever settled in heaven” (Psa.119:152).

“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever” (Isa. 40:8).

“But the word of the Lord endureth forever, and this is the word by which the gospel is preached unto you” (I Peter 1:25).

B. It is the book which is food for the soul:

“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth” (Psa. 119:103).

“Thy words were found, and I did eat them: and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart; (Jerm.15:16).

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby” (I Peter 2:2).

C. It is a Divinely-inspired book:

“All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (II Tim. 3:16).

“For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (II Peter 1:21).

D. Its precepts written upon the believer’s heart:

“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach” (Rom.10:8).

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts unto the Lord” (Colo. 3:16).

E. It provides light to the soul:

“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple” (Psa.119:130).

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; where unto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the daystar arise in your hearts” (II Peter 1:19).

F. It is loved by God’s people:

“Thy word is very pure: therefore, thy servant loveth it” (Psa.119:140).

G. It is powerful in its influence:

“Is not my word like as into a fire? Saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock into pieces”? (Jerem. 23:29)

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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” (Heb. 4:12).

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the SPIRIT, which is the word of God” (Eph.6:17).

H. It is written to authenticate the deity of Christ:

“But these are written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and that believing ye might have life through his name” (Jn. 20:31).

“These things have I written unto you that ye believe on the name of the Son of God: that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe upon the Son of God” (I Jn. 5:13).

This small list which I have compiled emphasizes the dearness of God’s inspired word, as it has been of God through the years to bless His chosen church, does not scratch the surface of the totality of precious revelation(s) that are revealed to the Lord’s heritage.

Yes, beloved Brethren, as for me I shall “TOTE” that old leather-bound book in my vehicle and carry it to a hospital, nursing home, to visit a shut-in, church meeting and wheresoever I may feel the Lord may cause me to use it as a balm for the afflicted in heart and body among the Lord’s people. I shall carry that book to every meeting where the brethren may gather to use its content to FEED the sheep of God’s Church.

I couldn’t care less if the world joined arm-in-arm in protest of me carrying that precious book; I pray I may have it in my hand upon my death bed and even when God calls my breath to cease, may it be at my side. For in it are the words which speak of life eternal and the GOOD NEWS that Jesus Christ alone saves sinners.

Come Oh empty handed saints to meet among the brethren, hast thou not a love for the inspired written text of the Holy Writ? Doest thou not desire to read the text as it is proclaimed from the preaching stand? And see the words spoken with thine eyes? Oh,

that it would be etched upon my heart and mind as I see the word which thy truth is and that which sanctifieth the heart and soul per our Lord's prayer as recorded in John Chapter seventeen, "Sanctify them through thy truth; THY WORD IS TRUTH" (John 17:17).

May God be pleased to have those which give testimony of having a hope in Christ all sufficiency, be prepared with the text of the Holy writ to give the reason for which they believe using the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT. What soldier of the cross called into the Lord's army to battle in a spiritual warfare would be foolish enough to enter into the war without his weapon?

This is a small composition why my BIBLE is my BEST FRIEND and COMPANION. Yea, when man cannot assist the soul's condition, the Holy Writ can soothe the discouraged, the down-trodden, the broken-hearted and those vexed in spirit from sin's stains and temptation.

To those who merely have a copy of the scriptures laying on the rear window of your car, or on the dash of your pickup truck: I ask you, what would God have you do with that book when his church meets? Leave it there to bake in the sun, or to be honored as God's word, the rule and guide to support our Christian experience and defines salvation by grace alone? What do you think the Berean's brought to meetings? (Acts 17:11)

THANK YOU, Jehovah Jesus, for thy precious word, may it be forever hidden in the hearts of thy people for thy name's sake, honor and glory.

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