

THE VOICE OF EVANGELISM INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES EVANGELIST/ PASTOR DAVID W. LANKFORD

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Today we want to take our Scripture text from *Psalms 119:130, "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."* Never before has there been a greater famine of the Word of God in America than there is today. Regretfully, it is almost impossible to hear a Holy Ghost anointed message in this hour. Most ministers today are preaching from a horizontal disposition concerning our personage and where many are possibly headed.

The truth is we must preach and declare the Word of God from a vertical disposition so that our hearts and minds would be focused on the things above and not on the earth. For the most part, today's sermonettes only glorify and magnify prosperity and worldly possessions: that is certainly not the gospel. The apostle Paul admonished the church concerning its focus found here in *Colossians3:2, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."*

The psalmist David spoke of God's Word having a place of entrance into his personal life. When using the word entrance here it is symbolically a doorway into our heart and soul. Because of this entrance we all have the ability to keep that doorway closed and never allow the Word of God to have a place of residence within our hearts. Jesus said in Revelation 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door (way), I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Christ Jesus

THE ENTRANCE OF THY WORD

has taken his place or station by standing at everyone's door or entranceway. One's response is very simple: to will you allow the Word of God to have a place of residence within your life? Regretfully, days of peril are coming to America because of our profuse sins. Without a doubt, the election and installment of President Donald Trump was a mere reprieve given to America because of our Lord's matchless grace. In the same way, David understood the grace of God concerning sin within his own life, when he declared here in Psalms 103:10, "He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities."

Each of us can relate to this particular Psalms because there have been times when God should have punished all of us, but instead, He gave us grace and mercy. Judgment called and justifiably so: but mercy answered judgment's demand on our behalf. Instead of judgment, grace covered our sins and kept us on the straight and narrow path. All sins no matter how we may categorize them, are always grievous to the Holy Spirit.

As believers, if we allow the Word of God to have a place of residence within our hearts, then His Word will keep us from sin in the time of temptation. Again, the psalmist declared in *Psalms 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."* David is declaring how he had treasured up the Word of God in his heart to keep him in the time of temptation. As a result, he was able to overcome sin

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and temptation. Many times in the moment of temptation the Holy Spirit brings to our remembrance the Words of God. Many years ago, while in my first pastorate, I was facing a difficult hour in the ministry. During that time, a dear sister walked up to me and referenced 1st Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." The truth is, I already knew that verse and had it committed to memory, however, when she spoke it to me it felt different. The entrance of that word pierced my heart, and under the anointing and inspiration of the Holy Spirit I received it as divine and prophetic. Without a doubt, that word truly comforted me as it entered my heart.

We never know how quickly the entrance of God's Word can inspire us as well as change us. Other than the Holy Spirit, the greatest comfort that one can find is in the Word of God. The psalmist declared in *Psalms* 119:50, "This is my comfort in my affliction: For thy word hath quickened me." The word quicken here in the Hebrew, means to give one life or to literally keep us alive.

When Christ described Himself as the bread of life, He fully understood how powerfully His Word could sustain each of us. Jesus himself used the Word of God against Satan found here in Matthew 4:4, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Jesus was actually quoting from Deuteronomy

8:3, "That he might make thee know that man does not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live." The Book of Deuteronomy is often described as the book of obedience. Therefore, Jesus being the obedient Son that He was submitted Himself to His own words because He couldn't declare by anything greater. The reason the Word of God is able to sustain all of us is because Jesus is that bread. Jesus was speaking of himself found here in John 6:48-51, "I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This (speaking of himself) is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live (through the bodily resurrection) forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

Today, if you feel famished, it is because there is a famine of the Word of God within your life? Every one of us has the ability to suffer or allow the Word of God to have a place of permanent residence within our hearts or we can choose to not allow it. Many times there are grave and great difficulties concerning each of us and, without a doubt, they are unfair and unjust. Christ never declared life was fair or just. In fact Christ warned that the world would be a place filled with great difficulties. He warned us in John 16:33, "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

Because Christ has overcome the world, you and I can also overcome because His Word now has a place of residence within us. The apostle John gave us great encouragement found here in 1st John 4:4, "Ye are of God,"

little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." A peril of great darkness will soon sweep over this nation. Those who are in a position and place of spiritual authority have failed to preach repentance during this brief and timely reprieve. I declared some months ago I would begin praying for divine, incremental judgments, for which I was ridiculed. However, the Bible declares in *Isaiah 26:9, "When* thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness."

I must ask this question: has Jehovah pulled back His hand of protection for a time; thus allowing the Coronavirus to overwhelm the entirety of the world? Again, why are ministers not crying aloud for repentance and for God's divine protection during this calamitous hour? What will it take for America to learn true righteousness? I truly believe ministers have either forgotten how to preach repentance or they are too concerned about being politically correct to do so. Most ministers are overly-concerned about offending the sinner, the backslider, or the indifferent. What that truly declares is they have no concern for the lost and dying. Failure in preaching repentance creates a grave danger and risk to the church (the body of Christ). When men can no longer discern the hour or the need for repentance, demonstrates their spiritual indifference.

Again, those ministers only preach horizontally when they should be preaching vertically. Notice how vertically opposed are heaven and hell. Christ is our only refuge in this perilous hour. I encourage you to open the doorway of your heart and allow His Word to find a permanent place of residence. You will need the treasure of His most holy Word in the

coming days. It is hard for anyone to imagine the fragility of the entire world at this present time. People are pleading and begging to leave China because of the harsh and despotic rule that is in power. Many want out but cannot get out. May I humbly encourage you to pray for those Christians around the world who are not afforded the liberties we still possess here in America?

Thank you for your love and loyal support for this ministry. Truthfully, it saddened our hearts to cancel the revival meeting for this month, however, as we wait upon the Lord, we are confident He will continue to order our steps. I never want to harm or endanger anyone by being adamant concerning any spiritual endeavor. No one can afford to be selfish and selfserving in this day of peril. This is why we made the decision. We are admonished from the Word of God to acknowledge the Lord in everything we do. I pray you are already enjoying the new segment we have just started with Roby Walker and me, entitled "Talking it Out." This new segment is all about keeping you current with Bible prophecy and world events. We are also considering the addition of other platforms of ministry in the future. Please continue to pray for our President and for our spiritual leaders so they may discern the hour. Peril is so imminent. Solomon declared in Proverbs 11:30, "He that winneth souls is wise", so are those who are not concerned with winning souls are they unwise? Please keep your lamps trimmed and burning for the

Serving With You All,

business.

Pastor / Evangelist David W. Lankford

bridegroom will come again! Let us

continually be about our Father's