

Tremble

7-30-23

Isaiah 66:2b (NIV)

These are the ones I look on with favor:
those who are humble and contrite in spirit,
and who TREMBLE AT MY WORD.

Humble – I can't but God can. Contrite – Crushed – Void of any personal strength. These are the people who recognize God as the creator of all things who holds all things together. These are the people that recognize that God's Word is eternal and has the power to create and the power to destroy.

Paul commended the new believers in Thessalonica because they recognized the authority of God's Word and trembled at the magnitude of what they were hearing.

1Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV) NO O/H

We also thank God continually because, when you received the WORD of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the WORD of God, which is indeed at "work" in you who believe.

They received the WORD of God, and accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the WORD of God. Also they experienced the power of the Word of God. Once received, this Word of God becomes an active power operating continually in the believer's life. **When the Word is at work in those "who believe," there is a change in behavior. In Acts 18:5 Paul is described as being "seized by the WORD" as though it had overpowered him.**

God speaks to those who tremble at HIS WORD!

Isaiah 66:5a (NIV)

Hear the WORD of the LORD,
you who TREMBLE AT HIS WORD.

Counter: Those who don't tremble at HIS WORD, don't hear! God uses the word "tremble" to challenge our devotion. The Word of God should never be taken lightly. **We are not to just read the WORD; we are to imitate the prophet Jeremiah and devour the WORD!**

Jeremiah 15:16 (NIV)

When YOUR WORDS came, I ATE THEM;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name, LORD God Almighty.

Jeremiah is describing how he consumed the Word of God. He made them his own. He ate them. This symbolizes the total assimilation of God's revealed truth. Jeremiah's chief delight was God's WORD. Jeremiah reflects what the Psalmist said.

Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV) NO/OH

As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

The Apostle Paul was a man who thirsted for the Word of God and trembled in its presence. In 2Timothy the last letter the Apostle Paul wrote, he summarized the significance of the Old and New Testaments.

2Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

“All” Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

The word “All” means every kind of variety. This means every single Word of the Scripture without exception is God’s breathed out Word. Not one word is to be questioned.

2Peter 2:21 (NIV)

For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Discount God’s Word and you will be discounted. The Holy Spirit wrote the Scriptures. Therefore, readers of the Scriptures must depend on the same Holy Spirit to give them understanding of the Scripture. It is the Holy Spirit who must interpret and apply HIS own message in HIS own way.

Therefore, as the Psalmist said we also say, “Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your LAW/WORD.”

We believe every breathed-out WORD of God; therefore, we reverently and confidently believe:

John 3:16 (NIV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.