

First Mount Zion Baptist Church

Wednesday Bible Study

April 9, 2025

Word of God and Being a Fully Devoted Follower of Jesus Christ; Psalm 19 Case Study

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Karl F. Brower

Objective: Continuing review of the study of the word of God as one of the elements of the church's four-step strategy. The focus this week is on how the study of the word of God is necessary to being a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ. In this lesson we will use Psalm 19 as a case study of the benefits of the Word of God as understood from the perspective of the ancient Israelites.

First Read- Quick Read Psalm 19:1-6.

From your reading, what is the role of creation to provide a revelation or understanding of God?

How would you describe the intimacy of this revelation?

The text narrows the focus from the heavens to a particular element of the celestial witnesses. What is the focus?

What are the characteristics of this particular celestial witness?

First Read- Slow Read. Read Psalm 19: 7-14. As we review these verses, I want you to identify the parallel lines/elements, look for the ultimate and instrumental agents, and assess the impact of the Word of God on the life of the believer.

vv 7-8 Subject: law, decrees, precepts, commandment; Description: perfect, sure, right, clear; Object: soul, mind, heart, eyes; Result: restoration, wisdom, rejoicing, enlightenment

In these verses- who or what is doing?

vv 9-10 Predicates the comparative value of the Word of God for understanding. As the value of gold (even much fine gold) is desired / As honey (even honeycomb honey) is sweet → _____

vv. 11-14 The Word of God and Living Life

In these verses- who or what is doing? Name the agent- ultimate and intermediate.

The Word of God depends on _____.

Second read- Psalm 19A as a “Diss” Track / Word of God as Ruling Class Ideology “Diss” Track

Lack of God “agency” in vv 1-4

If we see the very personal and impactful revelation that comes from the Word of God in vv 7-14, how do we know understand or reinterpret the revelation described in vv 1-6?

What is the role of creation, as described in this psalm, in the understanding of God and yourself?

Indicators of a “Diss” in Psalm 19A (vv 1-5)

(1) _____; (2) _____;
(3) _____

The word of God offers a counter-cultural, anti-ruling class hegemony perspective on what is most important.

Communal Application

What about communal understanding? Apply the impact on the word of God on the community or nation?

Conclusion- the study of the Word of God/God’s Revelation enabled by the Holy Spirit is essential to being fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ- individually and collectively. God’s word challenges and presents an alternative worldview, a worldview that restores, gives joy, gives insight, and enables successful living (real life/abundant life) (not the same thing as material success).