

“The Word of GOD” Hebrews 4:12

When a nation, family or church let's go of the Bible, you go from, “Thus says the LORD,” ... to “this is _____.” **The Word of GOD:**

I. Is living – The Bible is unlike any other book. When you open the Bible, the _____ comes, because it is alive. It is full of life (John 10:10), because GOD _____ life into it. 2 Tim. 3:16-17

II. And Active – “energes” – means it produces _____, power, effect for change, and _____ for righteousness. Coupled with prayer, reading the Bible will give you _____ and change your life like _____ on Earth.

III. And Sharper than any two-edged Sword – It _____ what is life-threatening. It heals deep-seated _____. It cauterizes and stops the _____. It closes the _____ wounds. It is so sharp, you often do not realize that it has entered you and is now working.

IV. And Piercing – it penetrates with the extreme precision of a _____, and goes to where the infection is. It slices through the thickest _____ and obstacles to GOD in our soul. It is the ultimate _____ of the Holy Spirit. Man's words at its very best, _____ perform the miraculous work of GOD's Word.

V. As far as the Division of Soul and Spirit, of both joints and marrow – GOD's Word works on us where nothing else can reach. No surgeon can work on our _____. No medical procedure can correct a bad _____, or open a closed mind. There is no medical operation that can fix a _____ heart, or change a rebellious spirit, or remedy hypocrisy, or greed, or _____ or a lack of forgiveness.

VI. And Able to Judge the Thoughts and Intentions – None of us are very good at _____ where we really are. We all have _____ in our heads, that may have been in our family for generations. 2 Cor. 10:3-5 We are fooled by _____ philosophies in our culture. We have blind spots, and _____ that are unbiblical and wrong. Mt. 7:3-5 It is really hard at times to _____ the difference between the truth of the Spirit, and the deeds of the _____. Gal. 5:19-21. There is a fine line between righteousness and _____.

VII. Of the Heart. Everything in life is always a _____. The Word of GOD is the best daily medicine you can possibly ingest in order to stay healthy and grow prosperous. (_____) Prov. 4:23

VIII. GOD's Word:

1. Is a _____ revealing your true attitudes, the rightness of your actions, the _____ of your words, and the _____ of your thought life. James 1:22-25
 2. Is a non-failing _____ showing you the right path for your future, both the _____ and opportunities ahead, the Father's plans for you to serve others, and which course _____ to make. Ps. 119:105, Eph. 2:10
 3. Is the _____ that Satan hates above all others, and learning to wield it will bring you victory after victory. 2 Tim. 2:15, Eph. 6:17
- * "I do not recall counseling with a person not doing well for a protracted period of time, that was a _____ reader of the Scriptures." SP

IX. 7 Suggestions on Reading the Bible:

1. Get a _____ version. Mark it up.
2. New followers of CHRIST should read the New Testament through several times before you _____ the Old Testament.
3. Before you start reading each day, ask the LORD to _____ you, and HE surely will.
4. Read when you are the most _____. Have your prayer time following.
5. Don't read randomly, or you will grow _____.
Read methodically. Use a card as a book marker and _____ how much you read each day.
6. Set a _____ for how many chapters you read daily. Start with just one chapter. IF you miss a day, don't panic. Read the next day. Reading about _____ chapters per week, will get you through the Bible in a year.
7. Try to retain _____ truth from your daily reading. Don't try to understand everything you read each day. Just reading _____ your soul, and lifts your spirit. Growth comes with time.

