

The Sure and Shining Word of God

Text: II Peter 1:19

Date: 7-9-23 10:30 AM

1. The Word of God is unmatched and we need nothing else (II Pet. 1:19a).

This elevates the prophets and their prophecies. This elevates God's written word penned by the prophets.

When God spoke on the mountain that day His voice affirmed the word of the prophets because it proved that prophecy is fulfilled. But there is something even more! Some people may question Peter's experience that day, but he counters that by declaring the truth that God's Word is *true*, *steadfast*, and *firm*. God's Word is more sure word than man's eyewitness account that day because of the work of the Holy Spirit through the inspired revelation of God's Word.

This does not in any way discount what Peter saw that day, but this raises the bar from an eyewitness account to God's account. This promise adds certainty to what Peter experienced. It confirmed the prophetic promises. So Moses, Elijah, Jesus, Peter, James, John, God the Father and the Holy Spirit confirmed the truth of God's Word.

This means that we as believers have a concrete source of truth and that God's Word is much more trustworthy and reliable than the disciples experience on the mountain that day.

God's Word should not then be treated lightly. We have the source of truth, light, and hope. We need nothing else.

2. The Word of God is an illumination that we need in this dark world (II Pet. 1:19b).

take heed: This phrase (Greek: *prosecho*) means *to pay attention to* and tells us that God's Word will have little to no benefit in our lives if we don't study it, live it, heed it, and obey it.

We are in desperate need for light in a dark world. We can easily fall into the filth of this world and we need God's Word to keep us on the path of light and truth. Peter declares that God has given us the "sure and steady light in His Word" (Phillips 251).

Ignoring God's Word leads us to:

- Cults
- Religious error
- Sin
- Temporal living in the affairs of this life
- Worldly entanglement
- Leads many astray
- Eternity without God
- Wasted life

Jesus Christ came into the world the first time as the *Light of the World* (John 8:12) and no one has any excuse to live in darkness. Yet many people have rejected the light in favor of the darkness. Darkness continues to reign all around us and people love evil. Christ's second coming will change all of that. The night will end and the day will dawn. It will be then that the light of the Bible won't be needed because the Morning Star will outshine even it.

Admonition/application/promises:

- The prophecies, specifically, the promise of Jesus Christ's glorious coming shine in the darkness of this world and in our lives. We must live in light of Christ's future coming all the while allowing the Holy Spirit illumine our path through the Word of God.

- We must hold firm to God's Word as the days grow darker for it is our only Source of true spiritual hope, encouragement, and life.
- Taking heed to God's word means believers recognize the life-changing value of Gods' Word and strive to read and heed its words. These truths penetrate their spiritual beings so that every day they rely on them for spiritual food, obey its pertinent exhortations, and continually allow it to light their pathway with the Holy Spirit infused truth.
- One day a new day will dawn which is that great coming of Jesus Christ where He bless the world with His kingdom and bring judgment to those who oppose Him.