

## God's Word Is Like Fire

Jeremiah, the weeping prophet came upon the scene in the sixth century before Christ, moved by the Holy Spirit to be a "forthteller" concerning Judah's dark days. In the midst of his sad ministry, he testified thusly regarding the word of God: "Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak anymore in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay" (Jeremiah 20:9). Let us ask, how is God's word like a fire?

**FIRE GIVES LIGHT.** "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105). Without the word of God we would be in total spiritual darkness.

**FIRE GIVES WARMTH.** "Wherefore, comfort one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:18). The word of God has always been a source of comfort to troubled hearts. Human words so often fail; but the word of God succeeds.

**FIRE PURIFIES.** Nothing but the word of God can destroy the love of sin and moral corruption within the human heart. "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you" (John 15:3). No one becomes a Christian or lives the Christian life without the word of God. Men are not Christians where the word of God has not gone.

**FIRE MELTS AND HARDENS.** God's word has different effects upon different hearts. Some are hardened by the gospel message while others give way to its demands. "To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life" (2 Corinthians 2:16). The same message that saves is the same one that condemns.

**FIRE PENETRATES.** God's word penetrates. "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

**FIRE CONSUMES.** God's word will prevail in judgment. Jesus said, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). Someone said: "Men might put this fire down in life, but they will never put it out! Here, in judgment, or throughout all eternity."

~ Kenneth McClain, via *Bulletin Digest*

*The Bible will transform our lives  
And turn us from our sin,  
If we will study and obey  
God's principles within.*  
- Spier -

### THE WORD OF GOD

**Our Guide** —  
"When thou goest, it shall lead thee."  
**Our Guard** —  
"When thou sleepest, it shall keep thee."  
**Our Guest** —  
"When thou awakest, it shall talk with thee."  
- Proverbs 6:22

You can trust the Bible—God always keeps His word.

## News & Notes

**COVERED DISH DINNER: TODAY about Noon** at the Fellowship Building. This will be followed by our **early afternoon service at 2:00 p.m.** at the church building.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Canceled this week, Tuesday, Dec. 6th. Resumes Tuesday, Dec. 13th at 7:00 p.m.**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Dec. 10th, 8:30 a.m.** at the Columbiana Church of Christ. Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer.

**HOLIDAY GET-TOGETHER: Friday, Dec. 16th, 6:00 p.m.** at the Fellowship Building. Pizza will be provided. A small monetary donation is requested to purchase incidentals (sliders, cheese and/or veggie trays, etc.). **Members are asked to bring only desserts.** Plan to attend this evening of food, fun, and fellowship. Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer.

**PICTURES FOR OUR UPDATED DIRECTORY:** If you did not have your picture taken last weekend for our "new" directory, please submit a recent 5x7 or 8x10 photo to Rico by **Dec. 17th.**

**PANTRY:** Cranberry sauce.

**REQUEST FOR PRAYERS:** **Charles Adkins** - heart problem (former member here), 15330 Hagenderfer Rd., Plain City, OH 43064. **Carol Williams** - Covid (Sharon Sprout's mom), 104 N. Clayton, Carlsbad, NM 88220. **Herman McHan** (Columbiana congregation).

**SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home:** Susan Beagle, Jim Hadley, Linda Parkes, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, Claudette Miller, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox, Pepperberry Suites, Chester:** David McCoy. **Weston, WV:** Rick Beck.

### The Bible

- ◆ is God's own letter to man
- ◆ is the source of our information concerning eternal life.
- ◆ is our guide for daily living.
- ◆ is the final word in matters of religion.
- ◆ tells of the truth which will set us free from sin.
- ◆ gives us strength and comfort.
- ◆ tells us how to live happily.
- ◆ is the center of our education.

*Are you studying the Bible regularly?*

- Bulletin Digest -

### How Precious Is the Book

How precious is the Book divine, by inspiration giv'n!  
Bright as a lamp its precepts shine, to guide my soul to heav'n.  
It sweetly cheers my drooping heart, in this dark vale of tears;  
Light to my life it still imparts, and quells my rising fears.  
This lamp through all the tedious night of life, shall guide my way,  
Till I behold the clearer light of an eternal day.  
Holy Book divine! Precious treasure mine!  
Lamp to my feet and a light to my way to guide me safely home.

- John Fawcett, 1782 -