

Basics for Christian Living

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I. Introduction.

A. Although one cannot prove spiritual realities one cannot deny them either. Both views depend upon presuppositions.

B. We accept by faith that the Bible is the Word of God.

II. Three questions that can be answered about the Bible internally.

A. What is the Word of God? It is truth.

B. What does the Word of God do? It cleanses, guides, exhorts, convicts, reveals the thoughts of the heart, reveals God, reveals you, brings salvation, brings peace, brings joy, etc.

C. What is my responsibility to the Word of God? We must study, read, obey and teach it.

III. Knowledge. (II Peter 1)

A. There are two concepts of knowledge.

1. Greek: acquiring knowledge.

2. Hebrew: intimate experience.

B. We are “married to Christ.” (Romans 7:4)

1. Grace and peace are multiplied to us through this love relationship with Christ.

2. Promises are poured out to us through Christ.

IV. Kinds of promises.

A. General.

1. Life in Christ. (I John 5)

2. Answered prayer.

3. Assurance of victory. (I Corinthians 10:13)

4. A way of escape in temptation.

5. Forgiveness. (I John 1:9)

B. Specific. (Acts 13:47, Isaiah 42)

1. Sometimes, God gives a specific promise based upon a verse of Scripture.

2. Suggestions: no Scriptural contradictions, prayer, counsel, the test of time, and leaving it open-ended.

V. Three areas we can apply the promises of God.

A. Personal life. (I John 2:15-16, Galatians 5:22-23)

B. Family life. (Romans 15:13)

C. Ministry. (Deuteronomy 22:35, Philippians 2:22)

Application questions:

1. Which question about the Word of God is most important to answer? Why?

2. Which tip for claiming God's promises did you find most helpful? Explain.

3. How can you better claim the promises of personal life, family life and ministry? Explain.
