

10: Governed by the Authority of God's Word
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Genesis 3:1-5 NIV

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "DID GOD REALLY SAY, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "YOU WILL NOT CERTAINLY DIE," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

2 Timothy 4:2-4 NLT

Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

Questions:

- Do you believe that the Bible is the true Word of God?
- Do you believe that you should make the Word of God the standard for how you live your life?
- Do you believe that if you live according to the Word of God that your life will work better than if you don't?

John 8:31-32 NKJ

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 17:17 NKJ

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

Reasons Why I Believe the Word Is Truth:

1. It was the only option that made sense.
2. The Bible has proven to be the most prophetically accurate book of all time.
3. Jesus Himself always referred to the Word as the final authority.

Mark 13:31 NKJ

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”

Matthew 4:4 NKJ

But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”

4. The evidence of how the Word works in people’s lives.

John 8:31-32 NKJ

...“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

Governed by the Authority of God’s Word:

1. You EXALT the WORD over your OPINIONS and FEELINGS.

Romans 3:4 NKJ

...let God be true but every man a liar...

2. BELIEVE the WORD will never FAIL regardless of the circumstances.

Mark 13:31 NKJ

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”

Isaiah 55:11 NKJ

“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”

3. DECIDE to MOVE from HEARING the Word to ACTUALLY DOING the Word.

James 1:22-25 NKJ

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.