

8 September, 2019

**The Pursuit of GOD Series**  
**#2, GOD's Word is Enough!**  
**by Rev. G Grant Verdoold**

**Psalm 19**

1 The heavens declare the glory of God;  
And the firmament shows His handiwork.

2 Day unto day utters speech,  
And night unto night reveals knowledge.

3 *There is* no speech nor language  
*Where* their voice is not heard.

4 Their line has gone out through all the earth,  
And their words to the end of the world.

In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,

5 Which *is* like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,  
*And* rejoices like a strong man to run its race.

6 Its rising *is* from one end of heaven,  
And its circuit to the other end;  
And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

7 The law of the Lord *is* perfect, converting the soul;  
The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, making wise the simple;

8 The statutes of the Lord *are* right, rejoicing the heart;  
The commandment of the Lord *is* pure, enlightening the eyes;

9 The fear of the Lord *is* clean, enduring forever;  
The judgments of the Lord *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired *are they* than gold,

Yea, than much fine gold;

Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned,

*And* in keeping them *there is* great reward.

12 Who can understand *his* errors?

Cleanse me from secret *faults*.

13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous *sins*;

Let them not have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,

And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

Be acceptable in Your sight,

O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

### **Text for Today:**

Psalm 19: 7 "**The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul;** The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;"

### **Preface:                    A Word About Revival**

"The heart of the world is aching for peace, for reality, and for GOD. The prophet, Habakkuk, once stood in the midst of a people who had been showered with every conceivable blessing, but who had lost their spiritual sanity, and he cried, "Oh Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years." "O Lord, I have heard Your speech *and* was afraid; O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make *it* known; In wrath remember mercy." Habakkuk 3: 2

This too, is our greatest need for today!!! The world today is in dire straits because it has lost GOD.

Most of us are aware of what transpired during the American Revolution (1776-1781 AD), but not many people realize that in the wake of it there was a pervasive moral slump. Drunkenness became epidemic. Out of a population of 5 million, 300,000 were confirmed drunkards. Profanity was of the most shocking kind. For the first time in the history of the American Settlement, women were afraid to go out at night for fear of being assaulted. Bank robbery became a daily occurrence.

And what was happening in the Christian community at this time? What was going on in the churches? The Methodist congregations were losing more members than they were gaining. The Baptists said they were having their most wintry season. The Presbyterians in General Assembly declared the nation's ungodliness. In a typical Congregational Church, Rev. Samuel Shepherd of Lenox, Massachusetts had not taken even one young person into fellowship. The Lutherans were languishing so much that they discussed uniting with the Episcopalians who were even worse off! Samuel Prevost, the Protestant Episcopal Bishop, left the ministry and took up other employment.

Many philosophers of the times, like Voltaire and Tom Paine echoed, "Christianity will be forgotten in 30 years."

Take the Liberal Arts Colleges of the day, a poll taken at Harvard discovered that there was not one believer in the whole student body! The poll taken at Princeton, a much more evangelical school, revealed only 2 believers in the entire student body!! Imagine, this is at an evangelical school!!!!

Students rioted against the church. They held a mock Communion at Williams College. They put on anti-Christian plays at Dartmouth. They burned down the Nassau Hall, where the chapel was located, at Princeton. They forced the resignation of the President of Harvard. They took the Bible out of a local Presbyterian Church in New Jersey and burned it in a public bonfire. All this was done to mock GOD!!! Christians were so few on campus in the 1790's that they met in secret and kept their minutes in code so that no-one would know what they were doing.

Today, in 2019, we live in a hostile world seething with hatred, intrigue, lawlessness, and godless aggression! The wicked prosper, and in many areas the righteous suffer! People are confused, unstable, and unhappy! Sound familiar? Scarcely, if ever, has economic prosperity been accompanied by such widespread unhappiness, lawlessness and rebellion!!

### **The HOOK:**

"The law of the Lord *is* perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, making wise the simple;" Psalm 19: 7

When David spoke of the "Law of the LORD", he did not merely mean "the law" as it was given in the Ten Commandments, although that also is perfect in the conversion of souls. He was using a term which includes the entire Doctrine of GOD, the whole Divine Revelation of GOD. Though in David's day there was not so full and clear a revelation as we have since the New Testament had not yet been given, nor had much of The Old Testament yet been written. Despite this, you will notice that the text has lost none of its former force! So, I shall use it as applicable to the entire scriptures, to the law, to the Gospels, and to all that GOD has revealed, and yes, it can, and it does convert the soul!!!! Friends, we know that law of The LORD is good because it converts the soul and, to our minds, the best proof of its purity is that it has converted our soul!

### **The BOOK I:                      The Work of GOD's Word**

Billy Graham said, " Christ not only died for all; HE died for each!" Did you hear that? " Christ not only died for all; HE died for each!", for each and every single one of us!!!

Friends, man's face is turned from his Maker. Ever since that fatal day in the Garden when our first parents broke the law of GOD. We have been, every single one of us, guilty of the same great crime of turning our backs on Christ. We stand as men who have their backs turned to The Light, and so many of us are going down the road which leads to destruction. "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it." Matthew 7: 13.

What we need is to be turned around for that is the meaning of the word, "converted", turned right around! We need to hear the command, "'Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.'" Isaiah 1: 18

This is not a suggestion; this is an urgent directive!! Turn! "Right - About Face!" Our text today (Psalm 19: 7) truly says that the Word of GOD turns us around.

When the Spirit of GOD goes with The Word, then The Word becomes the instrument of the conversion of the souls of men.

1) It is the scriptures that men are made to see that they are in error.

Today there are millions upon millions of men and women in the world who are going the wrong way!! There are many that oppose HIM!!! Many even believe they are doing GOD a wonderful service. Blindness, spiritual blindness does not allow us to see any fault in ourselves!

So, we need the precious Holy Spirit to come and reveal such things to us. The Holy Spirit shows us we are in need!! It is the wonderful work of GOD that makes a man or woman see that they are in error and in danger, and this is the beginning of conversion!!!

2) The scripture is a guide.

And what a great guide scripture is!!! "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye." Psalm 32: 8 "Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path." Psalm 119: 105

The Word of GOD tells us that by the works of law he/she cannot be justified. It tells us, "The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?" Jeremiah 17: 9. It tells us, "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." John 3: 18

When the Word of GOD shows a man or woman their helpless estate, it has done a great deal towards turning him/her around. "Who remembered us in our lowly state, For His mercy *endures* forever;" Psalm 136: 23

"God *is* our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; *Though* its waters roar *and* be troubled, *Though* the mountains shake with its swelling. *Selah* " Psalm 46: 1 - 3

3) The Word of GOD is the power of The Holy Spirit to help people to believe. The great invitation comes in wonder and strength. "'Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.'" Isaiah 1: 18

The Word tells us of The LORD's great, enduring mercy, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for *He is* good! For His mercy *endures* forever." Psalm 136: 1, and "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for *He is* good! For His mercy *endures* forever." 1 Chronicles 16: 34. It tells us that The LORD delights in HIS mercy. "Who *is* a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever,

Because He delights *in* mercy." Micah 7: 18 and, "For the Lord *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all generations." Psalm 100: 5.

4) Conversion. When a person looks to Christ alone, he/she has turned their face toward GOD. Now they have confidence in GOD, and out of this grows love toward GOD, and the desire to please GOD.

Why? Because GOD in HIS infinite mercy has been so very gracious in providing such an amazing Saviour!

In all the world, there has never been another Saviour like our GOD who seeks us out to turn us around! When we hear HIS call, and we surrender to HIM, we are effectively turned around!! "I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, And like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you." Isaiah 44: 22

These all are precious promises, gracious invitations, comforting doctrines. The Spirit of GOD applies them to the soul, and he/she says, "LORD, I gladly accept your pardoning mercy." "Come, LORD Jesus." "I trust you now, today!! or say, like Isaiah did, "So I said: "Woe *is* me, for I am undone! Because I *am* a man of unclean lips,

And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts." Isaiah 6: 5

This is being turned around from rebelling against GOD and coming to feel intense gratitude towards his/her Redeemer. "And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3: 17, "rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving." Colossians 2: 7,

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we [a]may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." Hebrews 12: 28,

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." Colossians 3:15, "I will praise the Lord according to His righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High." Psalm 7: 17

This is being turned around from rebelling against GOD and seeking to live for HIS glory as he/she would never have thought of doing before.

Just a final thought or two. If you ever get dull in the things of GOD, it is not the Bible that has made you so.

If your heart grows cold, it is not the power of GOD that has made you cold. "I know your works, your labour, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not and have found them liars; and you have persevered and have patience and have laboured for My name's sake and have not become weary. Nevertheless, I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lamp stand from its place—unless you repent. But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." Revelation 2: 1 - 7

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with [a]carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luke 21: 34 -36

If ever you cannot sing, or cannot pray, it is not the searching of the scriptures that has brought you into that frigid condition. "Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be." Romans 8: 7. Keep praying! We need to pray even more!! Heed the warnings! "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:" 2 Timothy 3: 1. This is what I am discovering over and over again!

And yes, it's true! If you ever have the joy of hearing The Gospel fully and faithfully preached, it brings life!! Wonderful life!!! "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. Romans 1: 16 It stirs the soul! It wakes the soul! It produces holy emotions, love of GOD, love to your fellow man, heart searching, deep humiliation, ardent zeal, and passion for the lost!! "Therefore, we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard,

lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward Hebrews 2: 1 & 2

The precious perfect Word of The LORD is perfect, and it's glorious effect is to continually restore and revive the soul of the Christian!!! "The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake." Psalm 23: 1 - 3 AMEN!!!!

## **The Book 2:                      The Excellence of GOD's Word in Conversion**

Oh, how excellent GOD's Word truly is! An amazing boon to the soul of the believer! When the Word of GOD does it's work, it takes the Christian's despair away, but it does not take away his/her desire for repentance! Oh, how amazing it is that the person who had been in despair because of sin, is made to know that his/her sin is forgiven, and not led to trifle or tamper with sin any longer!! By faith, one sees the wounds of Jesus and knows how Christ bled and died to set her/him free from the bondage of sin. Is that not an excellent conversion?

True conversion also gives a person pardon from sin, but does not make her/him presumptuous, pompous, smug or egotistical. It brings true humility. Though the past is all forgiven, it does not make allowance for one to go and transgress in the same fashion again. This kind of faith is a gift, and the beauty of being saved by grace and not of works is a perpetual boon to the soul! "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, **9** not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2: 8 & 9

Further, true conversion gives one perfect rest, but does not in any way hinder his/her progress!! Oh, the work of GOD that saves you is the finished work of Jesus Christ, and it produces the desire to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the LORD, Jesus Christ! "but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18. HIS glory is seen as we become holier and holier, more in the likeness of Jesus by the power of HIS spirit now within us!!

True conversion gives one security, but it does not allow the Christian to forget or abandon being ever watchful! We cannot afford, as so many are, to be complacent and coasting along on cruise control! Yes, we are in the Master's hand, and no-one can pluck us out of it! "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one." John 10: 28 - 30. Yes, we are more than conquerors. "What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." **Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.** For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8: 31 - 39.

GOD is always on the watch over us, "The eyes of the Lord *are* in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good." Proverbs 15: 3. "Behold, I *am* with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." Genesis 28:15. GOD is protecting us from every enemy. "'For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, Now I will arise," says the Lord; "I will set *him* in the safety for which he yearns.'" Psalm 12: 5. "Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me." Psalm 138: 7.

GOD will protect us from the evils of this world. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. *We are* hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body." 2 Corinthians 4: 7 - 10

GOD will protect us from sins of the flesh. "And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin." Exodus 20:20, (See Psalm 121 in Post Notes).

GOD will protect us from the pride of life. "The fear of the Lord *is* the instruction of wisdom, and before honour *is* humility." Proverbs 15: 33. "For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world." 1 John 2:16. GOD protects us from the evil one, the devil. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." 1 Peter 5: 8. "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand." John 10: 28

True conversion brings one to live for GOD. He/she does everything for the glory of GOD. The Christian is now living in the sight of GOD, where before she/he lived in the shadows of unbelief, he/she now desires to live in the light of GOD's sight at all times and is glad to be there!! We are now glad that GOD should see our sin and show it to us so that we can correct our way! We are glad that HE sees our sin and blots it out as soon as HE beholds it.

"and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses." Acts 3: 15

"looking unto Jesus, **the author and finisher of our** faith, who for **the** joy that was set before Him endured **the** cross, despising **the** shame, **and** has sat down at **the** right hand **of the** throne **of** God." Hebrews 12:2. This is how wonderful living in loving communion with our great Father, GOD is! How great is this?!!!

## **Conclusion**                      **GOD's Word is Enough!**

Whenever I encounter a difficult situation, I find hope and strength in knowing that GOD, my Saviour and Protector is enough! GOD is enough! All that our loving GOD provides is enough!!! "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love." 1 Corinthians 13: 13. It is just glorious.

The best thing to preach is The Word of GOD and to share this joy with others! "Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering and teaching." 2 Timothy 4: 2

Be the one to bring hope to another soul! "So, then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17.

Listen for GOD's call. Seek The LORD! "Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you - The sure mercies of David." Isaiah 55: 3. GOD is enough!

Jesus is calling, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Matthew 11: 15. So, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. " Colossians 3:16

Remember, whenever we go astray, it is because we have gotten away from The Word of GOD!!! GOD is enough to save you, keep you, teach you, love you, carry you, and build you up! All you need is The Word of GOD!

The Bible is the only one perfect book in all the world! It will refine and restore you if you yield to it's gracious influences! The Bible is all you need! "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for [c]instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3: 16 & 17. GOD is enough!!!

My friends, I return to the need for revival! The supply of Heaven is more than adequate for the demands of our spiritually starved world! If ever we needed guidance, if ever we needed stability, if ever we needed strength, if ever we needed integrity, and if ever we needed heaven-sent revival, it is surely at this present hour!!

I have never known anyone to accept Christ's redemption and later regret it!

GOD is enough!!!!!!!!!!!!

### **Post Notes:**

**Psalm 121** New King James Version (NKJV)

#### **God the Help of Those Who Seek Him**

1 I will lift up my eyes to the hills—

From whence comes my help?

2 My help *comes* from the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not allow your foot to be moved;

He who keeps you will not slumber.

4 Behold, He who keeps Israel

Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The Lord *is* your keeper;

The Lord *is* your shade at your right hand.

6 The sun shall not strike you by day,

Nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;

He shall preserve your soul.

8 The Lord shall preserve your going out and your coming in

From this time forth, and even forevermore.