

Upcoming Events

Revelation class: Today at 2:30 p.m.

Repeat: *The Beast...666*

September 12 at 2:30 p.m.

Fallen, Fallen is Babylon!

Tuesday Meet Up Class

September 7 at 7:00 p.m.

77682 Country Club Drive A-2

Palm Desert

“Pay attention to every word.” Jim Burruss

September Birthdays

3 Wendy Cortes 11 Marie Burruss 15 Marcos Perales

16 Jim Burruss 24 Mason Perales

30 Dortha Gentry 30 Kurt Hoffman

Indio Informer

Vol. 32 No. 36

September 5, 2021

Authority

Eternal Words of God

By Dan Jenkins

Jesus said, *“It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord”* (Matthew 4:4). The full implication of that phrase, *“every word which comes from the mouth of the Lord,”* can so easily be overlooked. Think about it. For man to live by every word which comes from God necessitates that every word which God spoke still exists. Otherwise, if any is missing, man cannot live.

Life is found within the words of God, not a bowl of Wheaties. Let’s take a moment to look at a parallel phrase, all the words, and the implication it has. The phrase is found forty-one times in the Bible. Six of these times it refers to the words of individuals expressing their own thoughts. The rest of the time it describes the words spoken by God or words spoken by His messenger. God gave His message, and His messengers then gave us His word. But, they gave us more than His word— they gave us every word.

When Moses met his brother, Aaron, who was to be the spokesman, *“Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord who had sent him...”* (Exodus 4:28). Two verses later, these brothers are in Egypt talking to the Jews, *“...and Aaron spoke all the words which the Lord has spoken to Moses.”* Not one word given at the burning bush was omitted!

When Moses descended from Mount Sinai, he had the two tablets of stone and *“...on them were all the words which the Lord had*

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Church of Christ

81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

Preacher:
Jack Critchfield

(Address Service Requested)

spoken” (Deuteronomy 9:10). While Moses was on the mountain, God gave instructions of sacrifices and worship. Moses descended from that mount “...and came and told the people all the words...and all the people...said, ‘All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do.’ And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord” (Exodus 24:3-4).

Do we see how God and His messengers were careful to ensure we have all the words He spoke? Take time to read Deuteronomy 27:3, 8; 28:58; 29:29; 31:12; 32:44, 46, and we will see this emphasis again and again. God is not just concerned about men having His word. He is concerned about men having all the words!

There is one chapter in the Bible where the phrase, “*all the words*”, is found seven times. It concerns the time when God told Jeremiah (who had been God’s messenger for over twenty years) to write on a scroll all the words that God had given to him. He could not leave even one word out and do what God said. When the king burned that scroll in his fireplace, God told Jeremiah to rewrite the scroll again and include every word God had said.

Next time we read the Bible, let us read every word carefully! God has given each of them and preserved them all!

“Do This” = “Don’t Do That”

By Seth Myers

Without controversy, one can declare that God does not change (Malachi 3:6). But what many may not realize is that the same is true of God’s spiritual principles. Among these is the exclusive nature of God’s “positive” commands—that is, “When God says, ‘Do THIS,’ it means, ‘Don’t do THAT.’” Let us briefly consider the clearest possible example of this spiritual truth.

Leviticus 10 opens with the account of the divine execution of two men who were in charge of the incense-burning portion of OT

worship (1a), which, naturally, required fire. But the fire they offered on this occasion is said to have been “strange” (1b | ASV) to God, or “unauthorized” (ESV) by God. That kind of statement naturally leads the reader to ask this question: “Why was this fire ‘unauthorized’? What was it that made this fire ‘strange’ in God’s sight?” According to the Holy Spirit, the reason it was “unauthorized” is because it was “fire that [God] had never prescribed for them” (ISV)—fire “*which he had not commanded them [to make]*” (1c).

When it comes to the manner in which we worship God: if it is not in His word, it better not be in our worship.

This terminology is extremely significant—for it was NOT that God had said, “You shall NOT make that kind of fire,” and that these two men made that kind of fire anyway; rather, God had simply said, “You shall make THIS kind of fire,” and, therefore, to make any other kind of fire was sin. Unfortunately for these two men, they did just that: they made “Fire B” when God had prescribed “Fire A,” and He repaid their fire with a fire of His own (2). Not one Israelite would have failed to “get the point”—you and I had better “get it,” as well! He didn’t have to specifically condemn or prohibit every single particular thing of which He disapproves. All He has to say is: “Do THIS,” and everything which the mind of man could possibly imagine besides “THIS” is direct rebellion against the word of God.

The spiritual principle that resulted in the death of Nadab and Abihu has not changed. When it comes to the manner in which we worship God: if it is not in His word, it better not be in our worship. For, if we want our worship to be acceptable to God, we “*must worship him in spirit and in truth*” (John 4:24).