

Israel, God's Word & You

Ezekiel 36:24–28 (NIV84®)

“²⁴ For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God.”

I. The Word of God

1 Peter 1:23 (NIV84®)

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through **the living and enduring word of God.**

Jeremiah 23:29 (NIV84®)

“Is not my word like fire,” declares the LORD, **“and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?”**

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV84®)

For **the word of God is living and active.** Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; **it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

God's Truth brings separation...

Jeremiah 20:7–10 (NIV84®)

⁷ O LORD, you deceived (persuaded) me, and I was deceived (persuaded); you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸ Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the LORD has brought me insult and reproach all day long. ⁹ But if I say, “I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,” his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot. ¹⁰ I hear many whispering, “Terror on every side! Report him! Let's report him!” All my friends are waiting for me to slip, saying, “Perhaps he will be deceived; then we will prevail over him and take our revenge on him.”

Matthew 10:32–36 (NIV84®)

³² “Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ **“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.** ³⁵ For I have come to turn “a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— ³⁶ a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.”



Hebrews 6:5 (NIV84®)

who have tasted **the goodness of the word of God** and the powers of the coming age,

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV84®)

so is my word that goes out from my mouth: **It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.**

Psalms 19:7–11 (NIV84®)

⁷ **The law of the LORD** is perfect, reviving the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

⁸ **The precepts of the LORD** are right, giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

⁹ **The fear of the LORD** is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous.

¹⁰ They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;

they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.

¹¹ **By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

II. The Promises

Genesis 12:1–3 (NASB95®)

¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's

house, To the land which I will show you; ² And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make

your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; ³ And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who

curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Genesis 13:14–16 (NASB95®)

¹⁴ The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Now lift up your eyes and look from the place

where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; ¹⁵ for all the land which you see, I will

give it to you and to your descendants forever. ¹⁶ "I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so

that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.

Genesis 15:1 (NASB95®)

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield

to you; **Your reward shall be very great.**"

III. Blessings & Curses

Deuteronomy 28:64–68 (NIV84®)

⁶⁴ Then the LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other. There you will worship other gods—gods of wood and stone, which neither you nor your fathers have known. ⁶⁵ Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart. ⁶⁶ You will live in constant suspense, filled with dread both night and day, never sure of your life. ⁶⁷ In the morning you will say, “If only it were evening!” and in the evening, “If only it were morning!”—because of the terror that will fill your hearts and the sights that your eyes will see. ⁶⁸ The LORD will send you back in ships to Egypt on a journey I said you should never make again. There you will offer yourselves for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one will buy you.

Revelation 3:14–22 (NIV84®)

¹⁴ “To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation. ¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. ¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. ²⁰ Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹ To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Prayer

Almighty God,

You have blessed us as a people. Our lives have been defined by Your expressions of grace and mercy. You have repeatedly poured out Your Spirit upon us, directing us back to You. Yet, we continue to rebel, to choose unrighteousness and pursue our own interests. Forgive us of our sins, turn our hearts back to You, cleanse us from our filth, renew our hearts, restore our love of Your word, and deliver us from the spirit of the world. O Lord, You are our hope and our Redeemer, we humble ourselves and repent. Look upon us with mercy once again, in Jesus’ name, amen.