

Eastern Mission

Apostolic Lutheran Church of America

The Word

July 2019

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **John 1:14** And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. **John 8:58** Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. **Ephesians 2: 8-9** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves it is the gift of God.

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Martin Luther in his second sermon upon his return to Wittenberg said as he spoke from Acts 17 16:-32 “Once Paul came to Athens, a mighty city, he found in the temple many ancient altars, and he went from one to the other and looked at them all, but he did not kick down a single one of them with his foot. Rather he stood up in the middle of the marketplace and said they were nothing but idolatrous things and begged the people to forsake them; yet he did not destroy one of them by force. When the Word took hold of their hearts, they forsook them of their own accord, and in consequence the thing fell of itself.” Luther further says to simply allow the Word to act and pray for them. For the Word created heaven and earth and all things; the Word must do this thing, and not we poor sinners.

Luther went on to say that he would preach it, teach it, write it, but I will constrain no man by force, for faith must come freely without compulsion. He gave examples of things he opposed in the church, but never with force. He said “I simply taught, preached, and wrote God’s Word; otherwise I did nothing; the Word did everything. I let the Word do its work. What do you suppose is Satan’s thought when one tries to do the thing by kicking up a row? But when we spread the Word alone and let it alone do the work, that distresses him. (Satan) For it is almighty, and takes captive the hearts, and when the hearts are captured the work will fall of itself.

It's the written, spoken, taught and read Word of God alone that does everything. **Romans 10:17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. There is such power in the word of God lets trust the word to do its work. Let's go about our life spreading the word of God, and letting the word do its work.

There are many examples in the Bible exhorting the speaking, meditating and reading of God’s Word. **2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto good works. **1 Timothy 4:13** Till I come; give attendance to reading, exhortation, to doctrine. **Romans 15:4** For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. **Hebrews 4:** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. **Matthew 4:4** But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

In these last times with so many troubles wars, strife, broken homes, divorces, drug abuse, rights that have become wrongs, wrongs that have become rights. Let us be in the word for this is where we can find strength, and help. This word that is a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path.

Luke 4:4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

Luke 5:1 And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret.

Luke 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

Luke 11:28 But he said, yea rather, blessed are that hear the word of God, and keep it.

John 12 :48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. Let us not reject so great a gift for they are spirit and they are life.

God's Peace
Bill Seppala