

A Priceless Possession Psalm 12

Introduction:

1. King David knew what it was to endure great trials and times of despair. David had been hunted like a wild animal by King Saul, betrayed by his own son, those close to him had turned on him, he had been cursed by the enemy, slandered and lied about, etc.
2. I'm sure many times he felt all alone. This is the picture we see in Psalm 12. He is bemoaning the fact that he cannot find a godly, faithful man that he can truly trust. vs. 1
 - Everywhere he turned, people were speaking words of vanity (evil), lies (double heart - vs. 2), pride (vs. 3), and rebellion (vs. 4) - using their deceptive words to oppress the poor and needy. vs. 5, 8
3. In the midst of his utter despair, David encourages himself by remembering the words of the Lord. Tucked away in this little Psalm of gloom and despair comes two of the greatest verses in your Bible concerning God's words. vs. 6-7
 - David basically says, "I can't trust anybody else's words, but I **can** trust God's words."
4. David likens God's words to silver. Do you realize how invaluable God's Word is?
 - If somebody gave you a choice of either forfeiting your car or your Bible (with no chance of getting another one); you would be an utter fool to give up God's Word.
5. God's Word should be cherished as the most valuable possession that a believer holds. Why is this true?

First, because God's Word is totally pure. vs. 6

1. David is surrounded by wicked men, full of fraudulent deceit, hypocrisy, and lies.
2. But then he suddenly proclaims in verse 6 that the "*words of the Lord are pure words.*" And then for extra emphasis, he compares them to silver that has been through the refining fires and purified seven times.
 - In the Bible seven is the number of completion and perfection.
 - God's Word is perfectly and completely free from all human mixtures, from all fraud and deceit. **Proverbs 30:5, 19:8, 119:140**
3. You may ask, "But didn't men write the Bible?" God used man to physically pen the Bible. **2 Peter 1:21** ("moved" means "to carry along")
4. The apostle Paul said that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God.
2 Timothy 3:16
 - The word "inspiration" literally means that God breathed out the words of Scripture.
 - Just as God formed Adam out of the dust and breathed into him the breath of life, God's Spirit moved holy men to write the words and God breathed into those words His very life. **Matthew 4:4**
5. The doctrine of inspiration doesn't simply mean that God **approved** of their writings, but that men actually wrote **His** words. God's ideas became their ideas

and they accurately recorded what God wanted us to know.

Illustration: me dictating letter

6. Because all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, we can be certain that we have 810, 677 of God's Words in our hands.
7. God Almighty has communicated with us! Allow that thought to sink in. He has provided us His very words so that we can see into His heart and mind. God takes His Word very seriously and it is therefore totally pure and free from human mixture.

Second, because God's Word is completely reliable. vs. 7a

1. Notice verse 7 where David says, *"Thou shalt keep them, O Lord..."*
 - The word "keep" means "to hedge about (as with thorns), to guard, to protect."
2. God is very protective of His Word. Many preachers and Christians seem to take God's Word very lightly, very flippantly - but God doesn't.
3. There is an amazing verse in **Psalm 138:2** that reveals to us how serious God is about His Word. This verse says that God has magnified His Word above His name. Why?
 - Your "name" refers to your testimony or reputation. It deals with your character. We say, "He has a good name in the community."
 - Your words mean more than your name because your words (the truthfulness and accuracy of them) are what reveal to others your name (or character).
 - You can have a good name, but if your words are corrupt, then your words destroy your name.
4. This is why Satan's main business is to corrupt God's Word. **Jeremiah 23:36; 2 Corinthians 2:17** - If he can corrupt God's Word; he can besmirch God's name. Isn't it interesting that most new versions have changed **Psalm 138:2**?
5. David encouraged himself and said, *"The words of the Lord are pure words...thou shalt keep them O Lord..."*
6. Jesus said, "The scripture cannot be broken." **Titus 1:2** declares, *"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began."*
 - God has a plan, God has put it writing, God has made promises, and it is all completely reliable, because God cannot lie and will keep His Word.
7. Satan corrupts God's Word, so-called "scholars" change God's Word, mankind misuses God's Word and takes it out of context, but God's Word rightly divided is completely reliable - you can fully trust God's Word.

Third, because God's Word is eternally preserved. vs. 7b

1. David is inspired by God to pen a precious promise. He says that God will preserve His words from David's generation forever. Man's words will be cut off. vs. 3
 - "Preserve" means that God will zealously guard and protect His words.
2. Some preachers have a real problem saying that they hold the inspired words of God.
 - They say that God inspired the "originals" and since we no longer have the originals (and nobody does - writing materials wear out), we can't say we have God's inspired Word.

3. They fail to understand the doctrine of preservation. If God is going to go to all the work of **giving** His Word, He surely isn't going to **lose** it. He is able to preserve it.
4. Timothy did not have the **original**, hand-written documents of Scripture. He most likely had a Greek translation from the Hebrew, yet Paul called them the "**holy** Scriptures" and said that they were inspired (God-breathed). This can be proven over and over again.
5. What is the point? It is fully correct to call a translation the inspired Word of God, if it is a correct translation from uncorrupted manuscripts. This is why I only preach and teach from the King James Bible. I trust it. It has been tried, and proven.
6. **Matthew 5:18** - not one jot (iota), or one tittle (a small part of a Hebrew letter) will pass (perish) until all be fulfilled. What is Jesus saying? God gave His Word and He will preserve it and see it all through to completion. **Psalm 119:89, 152**

In Conclusion:

1. Maybe you have seen the bumper sticker, "God said it, I believe it; that settles it."
2. With all due respect - God said it; that settles it! Whether I choose to believe God's Word or not does not change the validity and truth of it.
3. Christian - the most precious possession you own is God's Word. I exhort you to get in it, study it, learn it, and grow in it. It is God's Word to you. It is something that you can base your entire life on. It is the one thing that is completely reliable in this changing world.
4. If you are here today and you are a skeptic. Remember this, "*The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things*", but His Word will stand. Submit yourself to the authority of God's Word and let it change your life.