

Remnant Life Church
Sunday, January 13, 2013

God's Word...The First Multi-Tool Psalm 119:105

The Bible –

- 66 total books
 - 39 OT
 - 27 NT
- Written over a period of approximately 1600 years; 3 continents; in 3 languages – all brought together in cohesion
 - First book written around 1450 BC
 - Some scholars state that Job was the first written
 - Much debate and differences between biblical and secular
- Approximately 40 men contributed to the work – and perhaps a woman or two
- Each of the books, with the exception of 5, are divided into chapters and verses
 - Obadiah
 - Philemon
 - 2/3 John
 - Jude
- Originally there were no chapters and verses and some books were combined that we know today as separate (Kings, Samuel and Chronicles)
 - Chapters added in 1238 by a French Cardinal
 - There are 1189 chapters of which Psalm 117 is the center
 - Verses added in 1551 by Robert Stephens a Paris scholar and printer
 - There are 31,102 verses of which the middle is Psalm 103:1-2
- Translated into more than 1200 languages

The Bible is not only the written word of God to be studied and used on Sundays it is intended for us to use every day.

1. The Psalms extoll the praises of God and His Word
2. The 119th Psalm is the longest chapter in the longest book filled with God's praise
3. It is an acrostic or alphabetic psalm with each group of 8 verses beginning with the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet for 176 verses
4. It is an A to Z of God's Word

The Bible is described as many things each to be used by us in life today.

1. Lamp -

- a. Psalm 119:105 - *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.* (Hebrew letter NUN – 14th of 22)
- b. Some people use it as a lamp others as a candle

2. Sword for battle

- a. Ephesians 6:17 - *Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*
- b. The sword in biblical times was a weapon of defense AND offence throughout the entire Bible
 - i. First mentioned in Genesis 3:14
 - ii. Revelation 1:16-18

3. Sword for pruning

- a. Hebrew 4:12- *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.*
- b. Reasons to prune plants include deadwood removal, shaping (by controlling or directing growth), improving or maintaining health, reducing risk from falling branches, preparing nursery specimens for transplanting, and both harvesting and increasing the yield or quality of flowers and fruits.
 - i. This can easily be seen as the full life of the Christian.
 - ii. Perhaps why you read so much of this type of example in the Word
- c. The parables of Jesus often used themes associated with growing
 - i. Sowing and reaping
 - ii. Vine and the branches
- d. **Pruning is almost always painful** but is necessary to see true growth come into our lives – moving deeper into maturity

4. Flawless

- a. Psalm 18:30 - *As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.*
- b. Trust in the Word of God not the words of man

- c. Truth today in the world is based on what is popular, acceptable and PC even if it goes against what has been held as true since the beginning of time
- d. II Peter 1:20-21 - Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.
- e. Secular scholars today try and convince us that the canonical Bible was assembled with political and control in mind
 - i. Gospels of Mary, Thomas and Judas not included
 - ii. Only through the leading of the Holy Spirit

5. Seed

- a. Luke 8:11- *"This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God.*
- b. Jesus uses the parable of the sower to show how people receive the Word – we still see those very same ways today.
 - i. Keep
 - ii. Give away
 - iii. Plant

Use the Word every day to see where you are going; do battle; know what you need to do in order to grow; be comforted in where you put your faith and trust; to spread God's Word by showing Him to others in your life.