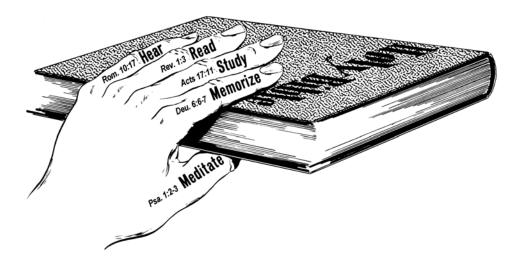
The Word Jim Downing

I. Introduction.

- A. The Word of God is a treasure. (Psalm 119:162)
- B. It is a living treasure. (Hebrews 4:12, Matthew 24:35, Jeremiah 23:29)
- C. The Word of God cannot be worn out.
- D. God's Word is very important. (Psalm 138:2)
- II. Five ways to defeat Satan in his frustration of one's spiritual nourishment and to appropriate Jesus Christ daily.



- A. Every Christian needs to feed on the Word to be a healthy Christian.
 - 1. You feed by **hearing** and **reading**. (Revelation 1:3, Nehemiah 8:8)
 - 2. There is a value in making us healthy even if we do not feel it. (Matthew 4:4, Job 23:12)
- B. Every Christian needs to **study** the Word to be an intelligent Christian.
 - 1. Bible study requires original investigation, written reproduction, personal application, it must be simple enough to be passed on.
 - 2. In Bible study one will develop a conviction, be tested on it, and character will be developed through that.
 - 3. One should develop a system to get acquainted with the whole English Bible.
- C. Every Christian needs to **memorize** the Word to be a skillful Christian.

- 1. It aides one in building Bible doctrine. (Proverbs 7:3)
- 2. It builds credibility if one is able to memorize even just a few verses for witnessing.
- 3. When the memorized Word is buried in the heart the Holy Spirit can use it to prick the conscience and prevent one from entering into something injurious.
- D. Every Christian needs to **meditate** in the Word to be a spiritually minded Christian.
 - 1. There are over seven thousand promises in the Bible, the cream of which being in Psalm 1:3 and Joshua 1:8. The chief promises are given to those willing to meditate on the Word day and night.
 - 2. Jeremiah 17:8 shows us the one shares Christ's life found in John 15:5 by meditating on God's Word.
 - 3. In order to be a missionary, one needs to be able to sink a well into the resources of God being God's Word to bear fruit in circumstances.
- E. Every Christian needs to **apply** the Word to be obedient Christians.
 - 1. It is unusual for a person to look into a mirror and not see something that needs an adjustment and not make that adjustment. It is therefore an oddity for a person not to take immediate action when he sees a problem in his character to work on after looking into the Word of God. (James 1:22)
 - 2. The Devil will do everything he can to deprive you of the spiritual nourishment of the Word.
 - 3. It is unusual for a Christian to find consistent victory in this area, but the Christian who does is a great discouragement to the Devil.

Application questions

1. Explain the five key steps to getting into the Word in your own words.
2. In what ways can Scripture memory be an effective tool for the Christian?
3. Why is it that daily nourishment from the Word is so important? What is your plan for getting into the Word daily?