

# The Spirit Of God Operates According To The Word Of God

Some separate themselves from denominations for the wrong reason. They don't think much of mainstream Christianity is spiritual enough. They judge that there is little more than a form of Godliness in the pattern of singing, a little preaching and socializing, and nothing more.

It seems they expect if God is working, everyone will get along even if there are differences over words, that God will work things out among them as long as they love one another, and that there shouldn't be any concern knowing that God can patch things up.

Somehow, the ones judging against the spiritual state blame it on worshipping God's word, with too much emphasis on understanding the words and not enough on living it out.

This is what I understood from talking with a particular individual. However, this limited conversation has too many unknowns, so it's impossible to say where he's coming from with certainty.

One thing I took away from the conversation was the emphasis on the lack of Godly character and too much on the differences in interpretation.

It did seem clear that he didn't care enough about the context of the references he used as a basis for his opinion.

Psalms 56:1-4 (NKJV)

1 Be merciful to me, O God, for man would swallow me up; Fighting all day he oppresses me.

2 My enemies would hound me all day, For there are many who fight against me, O Most High.

3 Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.

4 In God (**I will praise His word**), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?

**(I will praise His word)-God's promise of being trustworthy.**

Psalms 56:9-11 (NKJV)

9 When I cry out to You, Then my enemies will turn back; This I know, because God is for me.

10 In God (**I will praise His word**), In the LORD (I will praise His word),

11 In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?

**The occasion for David writing this 56th Psalm was his temporary captivity at the hands of the Philistines.**

Even in captivity, David found comfort and encouragement in God's word  
1 Samuel 22:22-23 (NKJV)

22 So David said to Abiathar, "I knew that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have caused the death of all the persons of your father's house.

**23 Stay with me; do not fear. For he who seeks my life seeks your life, but with me you shall be safe."**

Zechariah records the prophetic words telling the future change in the Israelite nation after the tribulation. God will intervene again to deliver Israel from Gentile nations as they are attacked.

Zechariah 12:1-6 (NKJV)

1 The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him:

2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

3 And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

4 In that day," says the LORD, "I will strike every horse with confusion, and its rider with madness; I will open My eyes on the house of Judah, and will strike every horse of the peoples with blindness.

5 And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, '**The inhabitants of Jerusalem are my strength in the LORD of hosts, their God.'**

6 In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a firepan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place—Jerusalem.

Zechariah 12:10-14 (NKJV)

**10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.**

11 In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

12 And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

13 **the family of the house of Levi by itself**, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves;

14 all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

**Notice the special attention to the house of David, the house of Levi, and the house of the high priest.**

Amos 8:10-12 (NKJV)

10 I will turn your feasts into mourning, And all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist, And baldness on every head; I will make it like mourning for an only son, And its end like a bitter day.

11 **"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD.**

12 They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, **seeking the word of the LORD, But shall not find it.**

2 Timothy 3:5-17 (NKJV)

5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,

7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

8 Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith;

9 But they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.

10 But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

11 persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.

12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

14 **But you must continue** in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

15 **and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures,** which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 **All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,** and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

We say it often: the word of God is the standard by which everything is measured and by which our expectations are set.