



# God's Word is Forever

## Understanding the eternal truth of God's revelation to us

1 Peter 1:24-25 - All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, But the word of the Lord endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

### What is the great truth in this passage?

That God's Word will never pass away.

Also that God's Word contains the gospel, the good news of salvation.

### Why is it important to know that God's Word will never pass away?

- Only the truth endures the passage of time. Knowing that the Bible will last forever testifies to it being the truth.
- Since God's Word will never pass away, we can trust the promises He made to us.

### How can we know that God's Word will never pass away?

Because God promised this and His very character is at stake in what He says is true actually being true.

### How is God's Word different from everything in this world?

Everything in this world is passing away, God's Word never will...

Isa 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.

### How is God's Word contrasted with people?

Our mortal bodies are temporary. They will go the way of all of creation with its hour of blooming then will fade away.

### Why is that, why do all things in this world pass away?

The Bible says that it is the result of man's sin...

Gen 3:17-19 - Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."

The whole world is winding down... The Second Law of Thermodynamics is an observation of this phenomenon also called entropy that says all things tend toward randomness... Two different gasses like oxygen and hydrogen in separate containers connected by a hose with a valve in it will eventually thoroughly mix when the valve is opened. This is why metals rust, it is the metal combining with the oxygen in the atmosphere and also explains why things break down without outside maintenance.

### If all things are passing away, even our mortal bodies, what is the purpose to life? How can there be any hope?

God promises everlasting life to those who trust in Him...

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

And God is going to create a new world for us, one that will never pass away like this one...

Isa 65:17 - "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind."

Isa 66:22 - "the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD,

There will always be an earth, but not like the one we know today. God will recreate it and so it will last forever...

Psalm 78:69 - And He built His sanctuary like the heights, like the earth which He has established forever.

The heavens, which is the universe, like the earth will be recreated and has been established forever...

Psalm 148:4-6 - Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created. He also established them forever and ever; he made a decree which shall not pass away.

### How can we believe that God's Word will never pass away when everything in this world passes away?

Because of who said it, the eternal Creator who made everything.

### Maybe we're getting ahead of ourselves... How do we even know that God exists?

Because of the creation...

Rom 1:18-20 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in

them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

The fact that there is a creation testifies to the fact that there must be a Creator.

### **Can you believe that something can come from nothing?**

People who deny the existence of God do. They believe that all of creation is just a random occurrence.

I am reminded of a comic strip I saw which depicted a scientist claiming he could create life and challenged God to a contest. The scientist insisted that he could create life the same way God did and God agreed to let him prove it. So the scientist bent down and grabbed a handful of dirt and God said, "Hay wait a minute, get your own dirt."

The big bang theory of how everything began tries to explain creation but does not explain how all that matter got there to begin with.

- By the way, astronomers have discovered evidence which is completely inconsistent with the big bang theory, that the galaxies and stars are not only expanding away from each other as you would expect from an explosion, unlike an explosion they are actually accelerating in their rate of expansion.
  - The big bang theory imagines all the matter in the universe as being eternally existent with gravitational forces causing it to compress on itself then explode in an endless oscillating series of events.
  - But this still doesn't explain how all that matter got there to begin with or how it got set in motion... Who wound up what is winding down?

### **Since we know that something can not come from nothing, what are the only two possible options to explain creation?**

Either the matter that makes up all things is itself eternal meaning it has always existed and will always exist (materialism) or it was created by One who is all-powerful and has always existed.

### **Which of these is easier to believe?**

- If you were to believe that the matter making up all things is eternal, you have to believe that something came from nothing. That is illogical and impossible.
- It is much more logical to believe the Bible that it was God who created all things, "with God all things are possible" (Matt 19:26)...
  - Gen 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

### **Should we use logic in matters of faith?**

Absolutely, our faith is not a blind faith. Evolution is a blind faith since there is absolutely no evidence to support it. Logic is a gift of God and He wants us to use it to lead us to Him...

Isaiah 1:18 – "Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

### **If this logical exercise is not enough to help a person conclude that the creation was the result of the hand of God, what else can we learn from creation that reveals it was the work of God?**

Because the creation has intelligent design. It can not be a result of random occurrence...

If you were walking along the beach and encountered a watch, you would know that the watch didn't just become formed by the minerals in the sea and the action of the waves. If there is a watch, there must be a watch maker. Likewise, if there is a creation, there must be a Creator.

- A watch obviously had a watch maker because it has irreducible complexity. In other words, if you take a part out, it will not work. So it took intelligent design to bring it in to being. Likewise, all of creation has irreducible complexity, proof of an intelligent designer behind it all.

### **So we have concluded that God is eternal and He has made this clear in His Word. Can you think of where?**

One place that comes to mind for me is...

Rev 22:13 - "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

So since God is eternal Himself, it logically follows that He knows about eternity, God is in the eternity business. So when he says that His Word will last forever, we can believe Him.

### **Besides His eternal nature, what else do we know about God?**

He is the source of all wisdom. He knows all things. He is omniscient...

There is nothing the Lord does not know...

Ps 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; his understanding is infinite.

Knowledge is power, this is how the Lord created all things by this power of knowledge...

Prov 3:19 - The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding He established the heavens; We can not hide from Him even in our thoughts...

Ps 94:11 - The LORD knows the thoughts of man

Those who put their trust in God will spend eternity getting to know Him. We will never reach the point where all there is to know about Him will be known...

Rom 11:33 - Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

We already know that knowledge is power and God has all knowledge so this makes Him all-powerful, omnipotent...

God is the Almighty...

Gen 17:1 - When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.

God makes the supernatural natural...

Luke 1:37 - "For with God nothing will be impossible."

God is everywhere, He is omnipresent. Don't confuse His omnipresence with the New Age belief that everything is God which is pantheism. God is everywhere but He is not in His creation except for believers whom His Holy Spirit indwells.

This means God is always close by...

Jer 23:23-24 - "Am I a God near at hand," says the LORD, "And not a God afar off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

There is no where we can go where God is not...

Ps 139:7-12 - Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," even the night shall be light about me; Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You.

So how should we conduct ourselves knowing that God is everywhere? Do what Jesus would do...

Phil 4:5 - Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

The God who is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent has promised us that His Word will stand forever. So the most important thing we can do in our life is to listen to what our Almighty Creator has to say...

**What is the most important thing we learn from God's Word?**

That Jesus Christ is the Son of God – God Himself taking on the form of a man so that He may make the way for us to be saved from our sin.

**What is sin?**

Not meeting God's standard of perfection. We are all born imperfect, in denial and rebellion against God...

Rom 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

**From what do we need to be saved? What is the most significant consequence of our sin?**

Spiritual death which is eternal separation from God.

Rom 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

If we live this life seeking to be separate from God, He will give us what we ask for and that will be our condition for eternity.

**How did Jesus make the way for us to be saved from the worst consequence of our sin?**

He paid the penalty for all who trust in Him...

Rom 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**So what must a person do to be saved?**

Believe that Jesus paid the price for your sin

Rom 10:9 - if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Jesus not only paid the penalty, He rose again to prove that He was who He said He was and show us that life after death is more than a promise, it is a certainty.