

WORD DIGESTION

JOHN 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² The same was in the beginning with God.

³ **All things were made by him;** and without him was not any thing made that was made.

⁴ **In him was life; and the life was the light of men.**

⁵ And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

The author always feels inclined to underline and bold every word of these five verses. One could write a whole book just on the above verses of John Chapter 1. People ask, "How old is the Word of God?" (v.1) The Word was from the beginning; it is eternal. The Word has always been with God, because the Word is and always will be God Himself. These are the boundary markers of Christian faith. We cannot reduce or expand these markers. They are absolute. God is overseeing every word of the Bible, because God is the Word Himself.

JOHN 17:4 "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do." ⁵"And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Once there is enough of His life in our lives (manifested by His Word), then like Christ we can finish the work that God has given us to do. Jesus was able to impart so much "Word" to His disciples, that he was able to say "they have kept thy word" (Jn 17:6) and "I have given unto them the words" and "they have received them" (Jn 17:8) This must be our aim as well, to effectively impart the Word to produce faithful ministers.

JOHN 17:6 "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

JOHN 17:8 "For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received *them*,

JOHN 17:14 "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. "

Even as Christ was not of this world, his disciples who were filled with the Word were considered not of this world. The "world" hates the Word and when we fill ourselves with the Word, we are usually disliked by the world.

A “Word filled” believer may even be unpopular in the church.

REV 10:8 "For I have given unto them **the words** which thou gavest me; and **they have received *them***, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me."

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Rev 10:9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, **Take *it*, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.**

¹⁰And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, **and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey:**

There are quite a number of Bible verses that deal with the eating of the Word. Although not literal, it is wise to look at all visionary and other aspects to find the reasons why God gave such similar visions to different men of the Bible. I will cover two notable visions of the eating of the Word. (Rev 10:9-10).

The words “in thy mouth sweet as honey” are quite striking.

Most people today are so busy, that they may not find adequate time to read the Bible, let alone the consumption of “honey flavoured Word”. In his vision John requested the book, and then the angel told him to eat it. The angel mentioned the fact it would be bitter in the belly. The more of the Word we consume the more we sense the burden of lost souls and the responsibility to reach out and minister the Word of God.

EZE 3:1 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; **eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.** ²So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. ³And he said unto me, Son of man, **cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee.** Then did I eat *it*; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.

After Ezekial received and had eaten all the word given him; then and only then did God send him to do His work. (Read v.4.) “speak with my words”

EZE 3:4 And he said unto me, Son of man, **go**, get thee unto the house of Israel, and **speak with my words** unto them.

One could easily assume that Ezekial, having had an experience of

- a) An open heaven (Eze 1:1)
- b) Having seen visions of God (Eze 1:1b)
- c) Having received the Word expressly from God (Eze 1:2), that it would now not be necessary to consume any more word in the manner his vision portrayed.

(Eze 3:1-3). When it comes to written visions of the activities in heaven both John and Ezekial were masterful in their descriptions. One would think that they had swapped notes, for the content has many similarities with greater details than other authors in the Bible. Heaven is real and mankind needs to ask if that will be their resting place when they depart this life.

Visions are great, but the Word gives us the solid foundations of faith.

The Word is that which gives us the boundary markers of faith.

EZE 2:7 And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they *are* most rebellious.

REV 10:10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. ¹¹And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

Apostles and Prophets are only as affective as the amount of the Word they have consumed. I hear a lot of ministers claiming to be apostles. Apostles and prophets must minister within the boundaries of the Word of God.

Show us the consumed Word and then show us the miracles!

LUK 4:32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for **his word was with power.**

LUK 4:36 And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, **What a word is this!** for with **authority and power** he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.

LUK 4:37 And the fame of him went out into every place of the country round about.

The digested WORD becomes the toolbox of effectiveness for ministers. Ministers who continually digest the Word will be effective anointed ministers, used of the Holy Spirit.

A by-product of the digested Word is the evidence of the power of God.