**R979 (80­) Rumination for Oct. 29, 2023 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **THE WORD** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*. Jn. 1:1

The **T**hots:

**A. THE WORD IN ETERNITY HAD NO BEGINNING.**

**1**. The **W**ord is **E**ssentially the self-**E**xistent One … *In the beginning* ***was*** *the Word.* Jn. 1:1

a. The **W**ord had no Beginning nor Ending. Jn. 1:1 cf. Heb. 7:3

i. Was (Gk. *en* from *eimi*) = to be, to exist without reference to end or beginning; am.

* Thus, He is the I AM Jn. 8:24, 58; 18:5

 Cf. God is *I AM that I AM.* Exo. 3:14

* *The Holy Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.* Rev. 4:8

ii. The same was (Gk. *en*) in (the) beginning with God. Jn. 1:2, 4

b. Ct. the **W**orld which had a Beginning and an Ending. Jn. 1:3

i. *Was* (Gk. *egeneto* from *genomai*) = to cause to be, i.e., to become (to come into being) cf. to generate.

ii. Thus, all things were (*egeneto*) made by Him.

iii. Without Him was (*egeneto*) not anything made that was (*egeneto*) made.

c. Ct. John who had a Beginning and an Ending. Jn. 1:6

i. There was (*egeneto*) a man sent from God, whose name (was) John.

ii. He was (*en*) not that Light – nor was He the Word. Jn. 1:8

**2**. The **W**ord is **I**ntrinsically the Eternal One with God and the Word was with God Jn. 1:1

He Existed together with the Eternally Self-existent God.

a. With (Gk. pros) – a preposition of relation and direction = forward to, i.e. toward.

b. He was ever toward God, face to face in relation and communion with Him in eternity.

c. He **E**xisted when God existed – the **E**ternal and Self-existent One.

*The same was in the beginning with God* cf. He was with God in the beginning. Jn. 1:2 cf. NIV

**3**. The Word is **E**ssentially the Divine One – God. And the Word was God. Jn. 1:1

 He was and is the Eternal God – the great I AM.

**B. THE WORD ON EARTH HAD A BEGINNING AND AN ENDING. I Jn. 1:1**

*That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes,*

*which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life.* I Jn. 1:1

**1**. On Earth, He had a Beginning …The Word was (Gk. *egeneto*) made flesh, and dwelt among us. 1:14

a. The disciples **H**eard Him.

b. The disciples **H**eld Him in their sight – they saw Him and looked at Him with their own eyes.

c. The disciples **H**andled Him – *Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself:*

 *handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have.* Lk. 24:39

**2.** The **W**ritten **W**ord spoke concerning Him: Lk. 24:44

 Thus, it is written, and thus *it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day*. 24:46

a. On Earth, He had an Ending – He died, but He rose again from the dead.

i. *I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore.* Rev. 1:18

ii. *Behold My hands and my feet, that it is I Myself: handle Me, and see*. Lk. 24:39

b. Now in Heaven, He tells us to Remember Him at the Lord’s Supper. By the eyes of faith…

i. We can see Him – He is **P**resent. Cf. Mt. 18:20

ii. We can look upon Him – He is the **P**resident of the gathering.

iii. We can handle Him – in the **P**articipation of the Bread and Cup.

*Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face; Here would I touch and handle things unseen;*

*Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace, And all my weariness upon Thee lean.*

*Feast after feast thus comes and passes by; Yet passing, points to the glad feast above;*

*Giving sweet foretastes of the festal joy, The Lamb’s great bridal feast of bliss and love.* H. Bonar

iv. We do this until He comes again – our **P**romise to Him. I Cor. 11:26

**C. THE WORD FROM HEAVEN WILL BE RETURNING. Rev. 19:11-13**

**1**. He **C**omes as the King of kings, and Lord of lords. 19:11, 13, 16

 *And His name is called The Word of God.*

**2**. He **C**onfirms that He indeed is the King of kings, and Lord of lords. I Tim. 6:15

 *Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto;*

 *whom no man hath seen, nor can see:*

***to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.***I Tim. 6:16

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 979 (80)**

1. The Living Word is from Heaven above, while the Written Word (the Scriptures) is on earth to tell us about the Living Word.

John 5:39 – *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life:*

 *and they are* ***they which testify of Me****.*

Luke 24:44-46 –

*And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms,* ***concerning Me****. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:*

Hence, we need to Study the Written Word in order to know more about the Living Word:

II Timothy 2:15 –

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

Why? Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) –

*For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Therefore, we need to verify from the Written Word what we hear from the Spoken Word if things about the Living Word are true like those Christians in Berea –

Acts 17:10, 11 –

*These* [the Bereans] *were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.*

Today, there are many false teachers of the Word, twisting and inter-twining scriptures out of context with their distorted views to interpret them in their own ways to manipulate the hearts and minds of the listeners and readers to their viewpoints which may appeal to them but are definitely contrary to the teaching of God’s Word. Such practices are not new but have been handed down and “perfected” through the generations to portray these falsehoods as truths even from the days of Paul. Yes, Paul had to warn Timothy and Titus of these false teachers:

**1 Timothy 1:3-4 –**
*As I besought thee…that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith.*

**Titus 1:10-11 (NKJV) –**

*For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.?*

Do you know the Written Word sufficiently well enough to check on the Spoken and written word of these false teachers? **REFLECT**

1. Today many of us are exhorted to read the word of God every day. Consequently many “Daily Devotions” have been published for the use of Christians. Many of them contain stories, anecdotes, and experiences of believers (founded on a single text of scripture), and they are related to us to challenge us, in some cases, to be like them. We can be what they are!

However, there is one Daily Devotion that is **completely based on the Word of God** without the intertwining of human experiences. It has only the biblical texts arranged to form into a meaningful text to challenge the readers to live for the day. I refer to Samuel Baxter’s “The Daily Light.” It is available free of charge on line or can be purchased in book form, which I would like to recommend to my partners in the faith. Here is an introduction to it:

***Daily Light on the Daily Path*** is one of the most beloved devotionals of all time. Each morning and evening devotion is a short Bible study with scriptures from the King James Bible compiled according to a biblical theme, **with no anecdotes, commentary, or stories to distract the reader, thus permitting the scriptures to speak for themselves.** [my emphasis.] The devotions are often sequential, carrying a theme from morning to morning or evening to evening. Thousands have experienced the spiritual rewards of daily reading these inspiring Scripture selections.

And you can download the daily devotion free from: <https://dailylightdevotional.org/>

Will you prefer a Daily Devotion Direct from God’s Word or from Man’s experiences? R**EFLECT**

**POINTS TO PONDER:** *It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.* (Mt. 4:4)