

WEEKLY ENCOURAGEMENT

from Johnny Hunt

THE GIFT OF HIS WORD

PART ONE

Scripture: Hebrews 4:12-13

I. INTRO

- Griffith Thomas says that all of the Bible deserves our careful consideration, our constant meditation and a complete application to our lives.
- God gave us His Word not just as knowledge to accumulate, but as truth to obey.
- The writer of Hebrews was concerned that we see the importance of the Word of God. The first four chapters deal with the supreme Word of God. When God speaks, whether through the written Word in the Bible, or in Jesus, the living Word, it is different from the words of man.
- In **Hebrews 4:12-13**, the inspired writer describes graphically the difference between God's Word and all other words. All through this book the believer is exhorted to give attention to the Word of God.
- Israel did not pay close attention to the Word of God. They failed to believe God's Word and the consequences were unforgiving.
- **Romans 10:17: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."**
- **John 15:3: "You are clean through the word I (Jesus) have spoken."**
- The point of this passage is that the Word of God has come to man and is such that it cannot be disregarded. Israel heard God say that the Word which went out of his mouth would never be ineffective; it would always do that which He designed it to do.
- Again, the Word of God is our Friend. It discerns, exposes, critiques, convicts, convinces, judges, enables, etc.

I. THE BIBLE IS A POWERFUL BOOK | VERSE 12

A. IT IS ALIVE

- **"living," "quick," "alive"—"zoon"**—it's the word where we get "zoology." It means **animate life**. The Bible is alive and life giving.
- It is always working and quickening its message to the human heart. The Bible is not a dead book with meaningless promises; it is living and full of life to the heart of the believer.
- The **written Word** of God introduces us to the **living Word** of God. You'll never find these two contrasting one another. They are always in sync.
- **1 Thessalonians 2:13: "For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe."**
- The Word of God will not let a soul who hears it ignore God's promises.
- The Word of God is instinct with life. The Word of God is something that every man must face, it offers something he must accept or reject.
- Listen to Jesus on the Word of God:
 - **John 6:63: "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life."**
 - Because the Bible is **God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16)**, it partakes of the character of God Himself. Because God lives, the Word He has breathed is a living Word. What better way to wake up each day than by the breath of God through His Word!