

## **Thirty-Two Traits Of The Person Who Respects God's Word**

### Part 1

- Today there is widespread lack of respect for God's word in the world and by many believers.
- It is sad some believers pay little attention to God's word.
- This lesson is devoted to the characteristics of the person who respects God's word.
- Here are 32 ways to determine when I respect God's word.
- The Bible is God's inspired word. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

**2 Tim. 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;**

**2 Tim. 3:17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.**

- "inspired of God" is from "theopneustos" that is made up of 2 words "theos" [theh ahs] meaning "God" and "pneo" [pneh oh] meaning "to breathe."
- God's word is not the message of man, but is God breathing out His message to man through the apostles and prophets and others He chose to communicate His will to man.
- God's word equips man for "every good work."

**2 PET 1:20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation**  
[initiative, origin],

**2 PET 1:21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved [borne along] by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**

- "phero" [feh roh] means "to bear, to carry, to move."
- The Scriptures do not find origin in men but they come from God who communicated His word to mankind.
- The Bible, as God's word, lights our path and gives infallible guidance as God's communication to man of His divine will for man. (Psa. 119:105).

**PSA 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.**

1. I recognize the Scriptures as "holy Scriptures." (Rom. 1:2; 2 Tim. 3:15).

**ROM 1:2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,**

**2 TIM 3:15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred [holy] writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**

- a. The Greek in Romans 1:2 is "hagios" [hah gee ahs] meaning "hallowed, dedicated, holy."

1) The Greek word “hieros” [hee eh **rahs**] meaning “hallowed, holy, divine” is used 2 Timothy 3:15.

2) These words mean God’s word is “hallowed, sacred, holy.”

3) They are used to modify the word “Scriptures” that comes from the Greek “graphe” [grah **fay**] meaning “writings, scriptures.” See Matt. 21:42; Jn. 5:39 where it is used of the Old Testament Scriptures.

b. God’s writings are different from all other writings.

c. They are “holy” and must be regarded as “holy” and binding.

2. I will insist on the Holy Scriptures as the only source of spiritual knowledge and authority.

a. Some charge those who revere God’s word as infallible and as our only guide make it an idol and are guilty of idolatry or bibliolatry.

b. This is far from the truth!

c. Those who recognize the authority of the Scriptures are keeping company with Moses, David, the prophets, Jesus, and the apostles.

d. When one reverences the scriptures, he/she is not an idolater but is recognizing the Bible as God’s word that gives light and understanding . (Jn. 17:17; 2 Pet. 1:3).

**JOH 17:17 "Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth.**

**2 PET 1:3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.**

1) Psa. 119:130

**PSA 119:130 The unfolding of Thy words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.**

2) Psa. 119:81,82, 134-136.

**PSA 119:81 My soul languishes for Thy salvation; I wait for Thy word.**

**PSA 119:82 My eyes fail with longing for Thy word, While I say, "When wilt Thou comfort me?"**

**PSA 119:134 Redeem me from the oppression of man, That I may keep Thy precepts.**

**PSA 119:135 Make Thy face shine upon Thy servant, And teach me Thy statutes.**

**PSA 119:136 My eyes shed streams of water, Because they do not keep Thy law.**

e. It is sinful and disastrous to ignore God’s word and to follow one’s own thinking. (Prov. 14:12; Jere. 10:23).

3. I will believe it, that is, fully trust it. (Psa. 119:42).

**PSA 119:42 So I shall have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Thy word.**

a. We are to trust God’s word is always right (Psa. 33:4), and put our complete trust in it.

b. Being skeptical of God’s word will not bring salvation or peace.

- c. Trust is more than just accepting it intellectually as fact.
  - d. Many a person gives mental assent to the word of God, but does not trust it in daily living.
  - e. It means one is fully persuaded that God's word is true, dependable, and a blessing to those who follow it.
4. I will obey it. (Jas. 1:22; Jn. 14:15).

**Jas 1:22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.**

**Jn. 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.**

- a. We must be doers of the word. (Matt. 7:21)
  - 1) Those who are doers of the word have built their house on a firm foundation. (Matt. 7:24, 25).
  - 2) Those who do not obey the word are building their house on the sand. (Matt. 7:26, 27).
- b. We must not look into the mirror of God's word and make the necessary changes. (James 1:23, 24).

**JAM 1:23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;**

**JAM 1:24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.**

- c. The primarily motivation for obedience is love. (Jn. 14:15; 1 Jn. 5:3).

**JOH 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.**

**1JO 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.**

- d. "Fear" [reverence] is also the motivation for obedience. (Eccles. 12:13).

**ECC 12:13 The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.**

- 1) Isaiah 66:2,5

**ISA 66:2 "For My hand made all these things, Thus all these things came into being," declares the LORD. "But to this one I will look, To him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.**

**ISA 66:5 Hear the word of the LORD, you who tremble at His word: "Your brothers who hate you, who exclude you for My name's sake, Have said, 'Let the LORD be glorified, that we may see your joy.' But they will be put to shame**

- 2) Ezra 10:3

**EZ 10:3 "So now let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives and their children, according to the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law.**

**PROV 13:13 The one who despises the word will be in debt to it, But the one who fears the commandment will be rewarded.** ASV “bringeth destruction on himself”....AAT “will pay for it”

- e. We must always keep in mind that God’s will is revealed only in His word.
- f. It is not found in nature, in feelings, dreams, visions, in human knowledge and conclusions, etc.
- g. Jesus taught us to pray God’s will be done. (Matt. 6:10).
- h. Jesus insisted that doing God’s will is essential to salvation. (Matt. 7:21; 12:46-50).

**MAT 6:10 'Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.**

**MAT 12:46 While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him.**

**MAT 12:47 Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You."**

**MAT 12:48 But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?"**

**MAT 12:49 And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers!**

**MAT 12:50 "For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother."**

- 5. I will believe in its power. (Psa. 19:7; Rom. 1:16; Isa. 55:11; Acts 2:41).

**PSA 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.**

**ROM 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.**

**ISA 55:11 So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.**

**ACT 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls. See Acts 2:4**

- 6. I will not turn from it to the right or left. (Josh. 1:7).

**JOS 1:7 "Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go.**

- a. It is easy to partially obey God’s word and live a life of adding or taking away from it.
- b. One must not compromise God’s word or deviate from it.
- c. One must not read the word with a bias mind to make it say what he/she wants it to say.
- d. Changing God’s word to fulfil one’s desires is a constant problem in every age.

- 7. I will not add to nor take from what He has said. (1 Cor. 4:6; Gal. 1:8, 9; Rev. 22:18, 19).

**1CO 4:6** Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that in us you might learn not to exceed what is written, in order that no one of you might become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.

**GAL 1:8** But even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

**GAL 1:9** As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed.

**REV 22:18** I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God shall add to him the plagues which are written in this book;

**REV 22:19** and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

8. I will want it as much as my body wants food. (Job 23:12; Matt. 5:6).

**JOB 23:12** "I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.

**Matt. 5:6** "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

**PSA 119:172** Let my tongue sing of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness.

- a. We hunger for food several times every day.
- b. We are to hunger for spiritual food even more than we hunger for physical food.
- c. A lack of interest in God's word is a sign one does not love it and have proper respect for it.

9. I will read it and meditate on it daily. (Psa. 1:2; 119:15).

**PSA 1:2** But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

**PSA 119:15** I will meditate on Thy precepts, And regard Thy ways.

- a. Many say "I do not have time."
- b. We always have time for what is really important to us.
- c. Loving God with our mind includes learning His will for us. (Matt. 22:37).

**MAT 22:37** And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

- d. We are exhorted to give diligence to the study of God's word. (2 Tim. 2:15).

**2 TIM 2:15** Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

10. I will keep it in my heart all my days. (Psa. 119:9-11).

**PSA 119:9** How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Thy word.

**PSA 119:10 With all my heart I have sought Thee; Do not let me wander from Thy commandments.**

**PSA 119:11 Thy word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against Thee.**

- a. Keeping God's word leads to purity.
- b. Treasuring God's word in the heart helps in the battle against temptation and sin.
- c. Jesus used the word of God to overcome the temptations of the devil. (Matt. 4:1-11).
- d. Jesus overcame each of the temptations by quoting the word of God. (Deut. 8:3; 6:16, 13).

11. I will love it. (Psa. 119:14, 24, 47, 97).

**PSA 119:14 I have rejoiced in the way of Thy testimonies, As much as in all riches.**

**PSA 119:24 Thy testimonies also are my delight; They are my counselors.**

**PSA 119:47 And I shall delight in Thy commandments, Which I love.**

**PSA 119:97 O how I love Thy law! It is my meditation all the day.**

- a. Love is not hate, toleration, compromising, apologizing, indifference, disobedience, etc.
- b. It is delighting, rejoicing, praising, obeying God's commandments.

12. I will long for it. (Psa. 119:31, 40). See Psa. 119:47, 72, 103, 174.

**PSA 119:31 I cleave [cling, keep close] to Thy testimonies; O Lord, do not put me to shame!**

**PSA 119:40 Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me through Your righteousness.**

13. I will teach it to my children. (Deut. 6:4-9; Eph. 6:4).

**DEU 6:4 "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!**

**DEU 6:5 "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.**

**DEU 6:6 "And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart;**

**DEU 6:7 and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.**

**DEU 6:8 "And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.**

**DEU 6:9 "And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

**EPH 6:4 And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.**

- a. We have the privilege and responsibility to teach our children.
- b. We should also teach grandchildren and great grandchildren.
- c. Sometimes we have the opportunity, if taken, to teach nieces and nephews and others.
- d. This is a responsibility that must not be ignored.
- e. Christians need to spend less time cursing the darkness, and more time reflecting on and teaching the light to our children and others.

f. We need to make sure children are reared in the Lord.

g. This includes such things as these:

Being an example of Christian living.	Some Bible studies on their level.
Encouraging to be <i>in Bible classes</i> .	Good Christian literature
Making sure they have transportation.	Reading to them.
Making sure they have a good readable Bible	Bible programs for their electronic gadgets.
Providing some good Bible aids	Expose them frequently to God-fearing people.

14. I will stay up nights just to think about it. (Psa. 119:148).

**PSA 119:148 My eyes anticipate [look forward to] the night watches, That I may meditate on Thy word.**

a. Reading God's word is very important.

1) Random reading of God's word, here and there, has little value, and may lead to confusion.

2) Reading one day a chapter out of Genesis and another day out of Leviticus or Ezekiel and another day out of Matthew or Romans or Revelation leads to confusion and misunderstanding.

3) Having a study plan enhances learning.

b. It is likewise very important that we spend a lot of time meditating on God's word and look forward to the opportunity to meditate on the word of God.

1) "Meditate" means "to reflect, to contemplate, to ponder."

2) It is reflecting on the meaning of God's word and making application of its promises, warnings and commandments.

c. "Night" is sometimes the only time when one has the opportunity to read and meditate on God precious word.

d. Others times of the day may be better for others.

e. The important thing is that we make time to study and meditate.

15. I will hate evil. (Psa. 119:104; Amos 5:15; Rom. 12:9; 1 Jn. 1:5-7).

**PSA 119:104 From Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.**

**AMO 5:15 Hate evil, love good, And establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the LORD God of hosts May be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.**

**ROM 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.**

**1JO 1:5 And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.**

**1JO 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the**

truth;

**1JO 1:7 but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

- a. The Bible uses words like “hate, detest, abhor” to describe one’s attitude toward “evil.” This does not mean we are to hate the sinner.
- b. The Bible admonishes one “to walk in the light” and to refrain “walking” [living] in the darkness.
- c. Believers are children of light. (Eph. 5:8). See Matt. 5:14-16.

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