

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

Part 3

Introduction.

1. This is the final lesson in this series on "Thirty-Two Traits Of The Person Who Respects God's Word."
 2. So far we have studied 19 of these traits and today we will study the remaining 13 traits.
 3. Each of these traits are based on actual Scriptures found in the Old Testament or New Testament or both.
 4. It is important that we carefully consider each of these traits as each one is of great importance for those seeking to be a faithful servant of God.
 5. The Bible is the message, the guiding words of our Creator, Sustainer and King. (1 Thess. 2:13).
- 1 Thess 2:13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when **you received the word of God** which you heard from us, you accepted {it} not {as} the word of men, but {for} **what it really is, the word of God**, which also performs its work in you who believe.
- a. Paul strongly and clearly affirms the Scriptures are not the word of men.
 - b. He emphasizes the Scriptures are "really"... "the word of God."

Thirteen More Traits

1. I will want others to hear God's word. (Psa. 119:13, 46).

PSA 119:13 With my lips I have told of All the ordinances of Thy mouth.

PSA 119:46 I will also speak of Thy testimonies before kings, And shall not be ashamed.

- a. The psalmist was dedicated and eager to speak God's word even before kings.
- b. It is significant he taught "all the ordinances" spoken by God.
- c. The gospel must be preached to all. (Mk. 16:15; Matt. 28:19).

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Matt 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

- d. We should use every opportunity to share the gospel with others.
- e. The world is lost in sin and the gospel is God's only saving message. (Rom. 1:16).
- f. We can never be sure who will respond to God's word, but we must not avoid teaching those we do not think will be interested.

g. Not everyone will be interested, but as Jesus taught in the Parable of the Sower some will hear and obey the truth.

1) In this marvelous parable Jesus taught God's word was sown in all [four] kinds of soil.

2) The sower of God's word must present God's word to all and not seek to judge who will respond to it and who will reject it.

3) At Corinth many responded to God's word whom most Christians would not have them on their prospect list. (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

1 Cor 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1 Cor 6:10 nor thieves, nor {the} covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Cor 6:11 **Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.**

4) Paul taught that "some" who were guilty of the sins he listed were converted and found salvation in Christ.

2. I will praise God who authored it. (Psa. 119:164, 171).

PSA 119:164 Seven times a day I praise Thee, Because of Thy righteous ordinances [teachings, laws].

PSA 119:171 Let my lips utter praise, For Thou dost teach me Thy statutes [decrees, laws].

a. God's word is perfect [complete and flawless] and God should be daily praised because of His "righteous ordinances."

b. It is complete and the only source for the abundant life here and in eternity. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:3).

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.

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.

3. I will store it in my heart. (Psa. 119:11).

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

a. Head knowledge is important and it is vital that one keep learning more and more of God's word.

b. Head knowledge is good for salvation only when it is "treasured" in the heart.

c. The words of Christ must dwell "richly" in our hearts. (Col. 3:16).

COL 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

1) The Greek word "plousios" [ploo see ahs] means "abundantly, richly."

2) God's word dwelling in a person "richly, abundantly" leads to joy and thankfulness.

3) It also leads to loving obedience.

- 4) It leads to joyful and reverent singing.
- 5) It leads to joyful and sacrificial service.
- d. When one allows “the word of Christ” to “richly dwell” in him, he is “filled with the Spirit.” (Eph. 5:18).
- e. Ephesians 5:18 and Colossians 3:16 are parallel passages with Colossians 3:16 giving the meaning of Ephesians 5:18.

Eph 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, **but be filled with the Spirit,**
 Eph 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

Col 3:16 **Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you,** with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms {and} hymns {and} spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

- f. These two passages are speaking of believers being led by the Spirit and manifesting “the fruit of the Spirit.” (Gal. 5:22-23).

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
 Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

4. I will be comforted in affliction. (Psa. 119:50; Rom. 15:4).

PSA 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction [suffering], That Thy word has revived me.

ROM 15:4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

- a. There is a need for medicine of many kinds.
- b. God’s word is the only medicine for the soul.
- c. This medicine is needed to comfort us in afflictions and help us persevere to the end of life.

5. I will live in peace. (Psa. 119:165).

PSA 119:165 Those who love Thy law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.

- a. Those loving God’s law have inner peace. (Phil. 4:7).
- b. As a general rule those who love God’s word will live at peace with others.
- c. Those who love God’s word are peacemakers - not trouble makers. (Matt. 5:9).

Matt 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

- d. Those who love and respect God’s word practice the Golden Rule. (Matt. 7:12).

Matt 7:12 "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

- d. God’s people are to follow the things that make for peace. (Rom. 12:18; 14:19).

ROM 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men [everyone].

ROM 14:19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

6. I will speak “the truth in [with] love.” (Eph. 4:15).

EPH 4:15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,

- a. Those who respect God’s word are obligated to teach the truth and nothing but the truth!
- b. Truth must be spoken with the motivation of love and with the intent to bringing a person to Christ or keeping them in the faith.
- c. This does not mean that there is not a place for rebuking and correction. (Lk. 17:3; 2 Tim. 4:1-4).

Luke 17:3 "Be on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

2TI 4:1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

2TI 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

2TI 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires;

2TI 4:4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.

7. I will receive it with meekness [humility]. (Jas. 1:21).

JAM 1:21 Therefore putting aside all [moral] filthiness and all that remains [residue] of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

- a. God’s word must be accepted with humility and be “implanted” [deeply embedded] in the heart.
- b. One must humbly accept what God teaches rather than deny it or reject it or compromise it.
- c. The admonition that James gave in James 1:19-20, in context, is talking about one’s reception of God’s word.

JAM 1:19 This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;

JAM 1:20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. Lit. “achieve” is “works not.”

- d. Those who respect God’s word are “quick to hear” God and “slow to speak” against God and His word.
- e. They are “slow to anger” knowing that their anger does not lead to righteousness - doing right.

8. I will not want my ears tickled. (2 Tim. 4:3,4).

2TI 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires;

2TI 4:4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.

- a. Sometimes even good people want their “ears tickled.”
 - 1) “Tickled” is from the Greek “knetho” [knay thoh] meaning “to scratch, tickle, make to tickle.”
 - 2) It is used to refer to those “desirous of hearing something pleasant rather than the truth.”

- b. The masses most often want to hear what pleases them rather than the truth of God.
- c. Those who respect God's word do not want to hear the things that please men, but they are eager to hear what pleases God.

9. I will not be ashamed of it. (Rom. 1:16).

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.

- a. The gospel is obnoxious to many people because they deny they need salvation or reject one dying on the cross could save them.
- b. They do not want to hear it especially any part that contradicts their life style.
- c. It is so easy to become ashamed of what is obnoxious and rejected by other people.
- d. Because of the hostility of the world, many Christians keep silent in regard to God's word and are ashamed to share it with others.
- e. We should only be ashamed of sin (Rom. 6:21), but live with the realization that our sins have been forgiven. (Heb. 8:12).

10. I will recognize that saving faith does not come from feelings or the thinking of man. (Rom. 10:17).

Rom 10:17 So faith {comes} from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

- a. Paul declares faith comes from hearing God's word.
- b. One cannot have genuine faith apart from God's word.
- c. "Without faith it is impossible to please God." (Heb. 11:6).
- d. Faith is trusting obedience - not mere mental assent. (Jas. 2:19).

James 2:19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

- e. True faith leads to obedience. (Jn. 3:36).

John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

11. I will be satisfied merely to know God's word and to know "the right thing to do." (Jas. 4:17).

JAM 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.

- a. James is not promoting ignorance. Ignorance is not bliss.
- b. He is not encouraging one to remain ignorant to prevent sin, but was emphasizing that knowing is not enough.
- c. One must learn and obey the truth to be saved. (Jn. 8:32).

JOH 8:32 and you shall know [hear and obey] the truth, and the truth shall make you free. "

- d. He is emphasizing that merely knowing what is right is not sufficient.

e. We must do what we know, and keep on learning and doing God's word.

f. We must proclaim the gospel to the world (Matt. 28:19, 20; Mk. 16:15); for without obedience to it one is lost.

12. I will not be content to live only on the milk of God's word. (Heb. 5:11-14).

HEB 5:11 Concerning him we have much to say, and *it is* hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

HEB 5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

HEB 5:13 For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.

HEB 5:14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

a. God does not want His children to remain babies and live on milk.

b. One does not manifest proper respect for God or His word by living on milk.

c. God expects us to grow and mature and learn the "solid food." He intends for us to learn and benefit from it.

d. Without "solid food" we will not have our "senses trained to discern good and evil." (Heb. 5:14).

13. I will recognize God's word as the words of eternal life. (Jn. 5:39).

JOH 5:39 "You search the Scriptures because you think [are persuaded] that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify [witness] about Me;

a. The word "dokeo" [dah **keh** oh] does not denote doubt, but persuasion.

b. It is used in this way elsewhere. (1 Cor. 10:12; 7:40; Jas. 1:26).

1 Cor 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

1 Cor 7:40 But in my opinion she is happier if she remains as she is; and I think that I also have the Spirit of God.

James 1:26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his {own} heart, this man's religion is worthless.

c. The one who has proper respect for God's word is fully persuaded God's word only leads to eternal life.

Conclusion.

1. May each of us treasure God's sacred word in our hearts.

2. May we daily read it, meditate on it, treasure it and obey it.

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