Lesson 3

God Preserved His Words

STUDY VERSES – PSALM 12:6-7

"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

God's words are so important to Him that He tells us **He will preserve them**. God promised to keep the inspired text safe without error or loss.

God Promised to Preserve His Words For Ever

READ PSALM 12:6-7

"...Till heaven and earth pass, one _____ or one _____ shall in _____ wise pass from the law, till _____ be fulfilled."

READ MATTHEW 24:35

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my ______ shall not ______."

(Note: God put these *exact same words* in Mark 13:31 and Luke 21:33! That is how *important* these words are to God.)

READ ISAIAH 30:8

"Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come ______ _____ and _____."

God promised to preserve His words for ever. And He promised that *not one single letter* would be lost! Is God able to keep His promise?

(Circle the correct answer.)

Yes / No

God kept His promise to preserve His words.

How Important Are God's Words?

READ PSALM 138:2

"...for thou hast magnified thy ______ above all thy name."

Obviously, God's words are very important to Him.

READ JOB 23:12

"...I have esteemed the ______ of his mouth more than my necessary food."

Job was right. God's words are more important than the food we need to live. Food keeps us alive for a *day*. But God's words help us live *forever*.

What have we learned so far?

God gave His words to mankind	$\left< \begin{array}{c} \text{which} \\ \text{means} \end{array} \right>$	God inspired His words.
God kept His words safe through all ages, without error or loss.	$\left< \begin{array}{c} \text{which} \\ \text{means} \end{array} \right>$	God preserved His words.

But now we need to ask:

How did God Preserve His Words?

In Books

READ DEUTERONOMY 31:24

"And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the ______ of this law in a ______, until they were finished,"

READ VERSE 26

"Take this _____ of the law, and put it in the _____ of the _____ of the _____ of the LORD..."

The Lord had Moses write His words in a book and put it in a safe place, so His words would be read and copied faithfully by future generations.

READ AGAIN ISAIAH 30:8

"Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it ______, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever."

READ JEREMIAH 30:2

"Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee ______the _____that I have ______."

READ REVELATION 1:11

"Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write ______, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia..."

66 Books: One Bible

We have all **66** books that God gave by inspiration combined in **one**book, called the Bible. But remember: the 66 **original** books were *never* combined in one book! It was perfect copies of those books that were brought together.

The first **39** of those books are called the **Old Testament**. The last **27**are called the **New Testament**.

In Faithful Copies

READ DEUTERONOMY 17:18

"And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall ______ him a ______ of _____ in a ______ out of that which is before the priests the Levites:"

God preserved His words by having His people make **faithful copies**of them. Even the king of Israel had to make his own copy of Moses' writings!

In Accurate Translations

Once the Bible was finished, God's people carefully translated His words into many different languages. These translations were so accurate that the Bibles said the same thing in each language. They were God's words in their languages.

God's words were so precious to them that many people gave their lives rather than give up their Bibles.

Only What God Wants Us to Know

Old Testament

READ ROMANS 15:4

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written ______

_____, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have _____."

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:11

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples (examples): and they are written ______ (warning), upon whom the ends of the world are come."

New Testament

READ JOHN 20:31

"But these are written, that ye might ______ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that ______ye might have ______through his name."

READ JOHN 21:25

"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the _______that should be _______. Amen."

Summary

God promised to preserve His words for ever and ever, without one single error or one missing word or letter. And God always keeps His promises.

God's words are very important to Him. He preserved His words in 66 books that make up the Bible. The 39 books of the Old Testament were written as examples and warnings. Each book points us to hope in God.

The 27 books of the New Testament were written to bring us to trust in Jesus Christ, who is God the Son and Son of God.

The Lord made sure that godly believers made faithful copies and accurate translations of the Bible. That way people all over the world could have God's words in their language.

Praise God that we have His preserved words in our language, the King James Bible!