

WE MUST EMBRACE BOTH THE WORD OF GOD AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

1 Thes. 1:5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance..

Hebrews 4:12 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.

John 16:13-14 The Spirit of truth...will guide you into all truth...He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

In your study of the Word of God, pursue the Holy Spirit, and in your pursuit of the things of the Spirit, be grounded in the Word.

ONE EXTREME: THE BIBLE WITHOUT THE SPIRIT LEADS TO PHARISEEISM

Pharisees were ones who had devoted their lives to obey the Law. They studied it, memorized it, and applied it to their lives, yet they completely missed the heart of God and were opposed to Him.

Matt 16:6, 12 Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Mark 7:13 Making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do.

Pharisees miss the moves of God in their own generation. They are focused on the laws of God from generations ago and are opposed to any present encounter with God.

Rom. 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

When we read the word of God, we must encounter the person of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God (John 1:1).

ANOTHER EXTREME: THE SPIRIT WITHOUT THE BIBLE

God gives us His Spirit to dwell in us (John 14:16; Acts 2:1-4). The Holy Spirit manifests His presence through the releases spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12:7-11) and other manifestations of power. The Holy Spirit reveals the love of God to us (Rom. 5:5) and through us by His fruit (Gal. 5:22-23).

1 Cor. 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

We need the Holy Spirit to illuminate the word of God to us. We cannot rely on rationalism and study alone (Psa. 119:18).