



Foundation Scripture: II Timothy 4:1-4

I. ***Psalm 91:1-8 (Memory Verse)***

A. The Bible

1. The Inspired (God-Breathed) Word of Life
2. Jesus said, “The words I speak...they are spirit and they are life.” “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”
3. The Bible is not a book, but THE book. “Well it’s just a book of history...a book that man wrote.” NO! That would be no different than believing that there are multiple ways to heaven....Jesus did not say, “I am a way...”, but “I am THE way...”
4. The Bible is God’s Manual for Life here on this earth. If you need an answer, you will find it right here! (This is why Psalm 91 is so important in our study).

B. “He that dwells in the secret place...”

1. What is a secret place? Answer: A place not easily seen or found. The definition in the Hebrew is “Hiding Place”. (Remember the game, “Hide and Seek”?)
 - In order to dwell in the “Secret Place”, you must look for it; you must find it!
 - ***Luke 4:17***– “Jesus FOUND the place that was WRITTEN (Inspired by God)...”
2. This is why we are instructed to ***Meditate (To ponder, to study, to imagine, to talk, speak, or utter)***. When you begin to meditate, it will place a demand on you to ask questions!
3. Example of how this works (***Psalm 91:3 & 6***): Pestilence mentioned twice...why?
 - Noisome pestilence – Deadly or destroying plague or virus
 - Pestilence that walks in darkness – obscure (blindsiding)

II. The sower sows the Word...and Satan comes immediately (***Mark 4:15***)

A. ***Satan hates the Indestructible Word (The only thing that will defeat Him today)***

1. In 303 AD, the Roman Emperor Diocletian issued a demand to destroy Christians and their Bibles. In fact, over a burned Bible, he built a monument on which he wrote these words, “The name Christian is extinguished.” Twenty years later, Diocletian was dead and the new Emperor Constantine commissioned fifty copies of the Bible to be prepared at government expense!
2. In 1776 Voltaire, the French philosopher, announced, “One hundred years from my day, there will not be a Bible in the earth except one that is looked upon by some antique seeker.” One hundred years later, Voltaire was dead

and his own house and press were being used to print and store Bibles by the Geneva Bible Society.

- B. If Satan cannot destroy it, he will do everything he can to keep it from being read:
1. Decree of the Council of Toulouse (1229): *"We prohibit also that the laity should be permitted to have the books of the Old or New Testament; but we most strictly forbid their having any translation of these books."*
 2. Ruling of the Council of Tarragona (1234): *"No one may possess the books of the Old and New Testaments in the Romance language, and if anyone possesses them he must turn them over to the local bishop within eight days after promulgation of this decree, so that they may be burned..."*
 3. Oxford professor, and theologian John Wycliffe, was the first (1380) to translate the New Testament into English to *"...help Christian men to study the Gospel in that tongue in which they know best Christ's sentence." For this "heresy", Wycliffe was condemned by the archbishop of Canterbury. By the Council's decree "Wycliffe's bones were exhumed and publicly burned and the ashes were thrown into the Swift River."*
 4. William Tyndale (1536) was burned at the stake for translating the Bible into English. According to Tyndale, the Church forbid owning or reading the Bible to control and restrict the teachings and to enhance their own power and importance.

III. Find The Word, Take the Word, Eat the Word (Flesh & Blood of Jesus)

A. **Revelation 10:1-3, vs. 8-10**

1. The mighty angel is Jesus (Rainbow represents covenant or what has been written).
2. The little book is the Bible....and a key word is "Open".
3. John is the symbol of the church....like many of us, we go to Jesus and tell Him what we want...but Jesus says to you, "Take it!" - The book is open for you to receive...Find it (Secret Place), Take it, Eat It!

B. It Is Written

1. Jesus showed us the power in these 3 words.
2. When John saw Jesus in the Spirit...what did he see? Jesus riding on a white horse, with eyes like flames of fire, A sword coming out of His mouth, His clothing dipped in blood....and His name is called the Word of God! He also saw written on the thigh of his vesture..., "King of Kings and Lord of Lords."
3. If you can find what has been written...speak it and the King of Kings...the Lord of Lords....His Words go into action and the devil will have no choice but submit!

Memory Verse next week: Psalm 91:1-16