

The Symbols of the Word

There are *seven main symbols* in the Bible used to illustrate the word of God. These are: a sword, a hammer, a seed, a mirror, a fire, a lamp, and food (and the food comes in four baskets, giving you every type of protein and calorie you need). I will go through these verses with you.

I. The Bible is called a *sword*. The Bible is a pointed word that convicts the hearer. So, we read in Hebrews 4:12, **"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit."**

II. The Bible is a *hammer*. It is powerful and breaks the resistance of the hearer. In Jeremiah 23:29 the Lord said, **"Is not my word . . . like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?"**

III. The word of God is like *seed*. The Bible is the living word, regenerating the hearer. In 1 Peter 1:23 we read, **"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."**

IV. The word of God is a *mirror*. It is a faithful reflection revealing the individual to himself. In James 1:22-25, we have the Bible likened to a mirror in which the sinner or saint looks and sees a true picture of himself, as portrayed by his Creator.

V. The word of God is a *fire*. It is a burning word that consumes the dross in the hearer. In

Jeremiah 23:29 the Lord said, **"Is not my word like as a fire?"** Jeremiah 20:9 says, **"his word was in mine heart as a burning fire."**

VI. The Bible is like a *lamp*. The Bible is an illuminating word, guiding the believer day by day. In Psalm 119:105 we read, **"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."**

VII. But that is not all. The Bible is like *apples*. The word to the wise **"like apples of gold in pictures of silver,"** Proverbs 25:11. It is like *milk*, **"desire the sincere milk of the word,"** 1 Peter 2:2. It is like *meat*, 1 Corinthians 3:2. It is like *bread*, **"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God,"** (Matt. 4:4). And David said in Psalm 19:10 that it was sweeter to his taste than honey.

Now, do you realize what I have said? That Bible said it is like honey: there is your *dextrose*; bread: there is your *starch*; apples: there are your *vitamins*; meat: there is your *protein*; milk: there is *calcium* and the rest of your vitamins. Do you know what I have just given you? I have given you a complete diet that any man in the world could live off of for eighty years. Apples, milk, meat, honey, and bread. Now, isn't that something?

Do you realize that what you have just read in these references gives a man complete "survival equipment"? If you were put out in a jungle or a desert or a forest with the equipment I have just listed, you could live as long as any man living anywhere in the world. You would have apples, honey, bread, meat, milk, a sword, a hammer, seed to plant, a mirror to signal with, fire to boil water and cook food, and a lamp to see with

at night. Now, tell me. What else would you need besides nails? The words of the wise are like *nails* in Ecclesiastes 12:11.

Do you realize the import of what you have just read? If you believe what you read in the word of God, when you have the word of God, you have complete equipment for survival for a lifetime in one Book. There is nothing in the religious literature or so-called "scriptures" of any religion in the world that gives the items I have listed. There is nothing in the entire religions of Mohammed or Confucius or Zoroaster or Gautama the Buddha that can even approximate what I just gave you. The Book that God has placed in your hands is a sword, a hammer, nails, seed, a mirror, a fire, a lamp, apples, honey, bread, meat, and milk. Now, what more are you looking for? The word of God convicts, it breaks, it regenerates, it reveals, it cleans, it sanctifies, it consumes, it illuminates, and it nourishes the individual.

The Bible is "the Book of Books." And when we say "the Bible" we are always referring to THE BIBLE. When you are reading other men's literature, you are not necessarily reading this. For example, the standard thing taught by every Christian university in America (and I am quoting from three letters from the three biggest Christian universities in America: BJU, Tennessee Temple, and Liberty University) is this: "Translations are not inspired," ruling out the *King James*. "There are copyist errors," without telling you what they are. "None of the originals are in existence today," true. "Ancient copies being discovered are almost identical." Identical to what?

The originals? How do you know they are identical if you don't have the originals? Now, isn't that something?

There is no Christian university or college in America today (1997) that is a major one (by "major," I mean enrollment of over 400) that teaches in the classroom that the Bible is the word of God. They put that on their brochures and advertise it. We have a college here in Pensacola that advertises itself as "old-fashioned and fundamentalists who believe the Bible is the word of God." There is not one faculty member in PCC that believes the Bible *is* the word of God. They believe the original manuscripts were the word of God if anybody could find them. *They don't have any Bible.* When they say, "The Bible," they teach the *King James Bible*, but they don't believe it (1997).

Now, in *Webster's Dictionary* this is called "apostasy." The word "apostasy" is from ἀποστασία in the Greek, which means "to fall away from a standing position." And what it means is although the person falls away, they keep on *professing* to believe what they *no longer believe*. If you want to know how the Liberals and Unitarians got in Trinitarian pulpits, it is very simple. They *professed* to believe in the Trinity when they did not. If you want to know how the liberals took over Colgate, Rochester Divinity School, the University of Chicago, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Dartmouth—when those schools were founded by Bible-believing people as missionary training centers (check it out)—I'll tell you how they did it. They *professed* to believe something they *didn't believe*.

If you want to know why the body of Christ is going into apostasy in this generation (I mean the born again, saved, premillennial, soul-winning, etc.), I'll tell you why. Their leaders are *professing* things they *do not believe* to get students and church members. The Bible has a word for this. It is called "hypocrisy." The word means "an actor." If you had a dollar for every fundamentalist you have seen standing in the pulpit and waving the *King James Bible* in the air and holler and scream, "We believe this Book *is* the word of God. It does not contain the word of God. It *IS* the word of God," when he was LYING, you could buy downtown Manhattan. It goes on thousands of times a day in classrooms and pulpits all over this country. Do you know what it is? *It is lying*. It is the old nature in the so-called "godly" or "good man" expressing himself by lying against the authority of God. The reason why the modern fundamental leaders use the *King James Bible* and "prefer" it is because *it would affect their income if they didn't*. They have no more use for it, as the infallible authority, than any other translation by any Liberal or Neo-Orthodox who ever lived.

Test for Lesson #16

Chapters 39 through 41

Name _____

ID# _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

- Directions: #1. Look at the memory verses at the end of the Test.
#2. Memorize them so that you can recite them without using your notes or your Bible.
#3. After memorizing the verses, you are ready to take the test.
#4. Take the test. You may use the lesson booklet and your Bible.
#5. When finished, send the completed test(s) to: _____
#6. We will grade it and send it back to you with the next set of lessons.

Circle the correct answer to each question.

Questions #1 through #10 are 8 points each

1. The Vaticanus and Sinaiticus manuscripts are the texts used to write most of the King James Bible.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. Basically, 3 different men wrote the Bible: Moses, Daniel, and the Apostle Paul.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. 2 Timothy 3:16 is referring to the original manuscripts.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. Apostacy means to fall from a standing position.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. The Ethiopian eunuch had the original Bible text in the Book of Acts.
 - a. True
 - b. False

6. The Ethiopian eunuch was reading the scriptures when Philip met him.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Test #16 continued

7. The greatest gift given to men besides the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit is _____.
- a. ministers to nourish the Lord's body
 - b. the gift of prophesy
 - c. godly parents
 - d. the Bible
8. The Manuscripts that the Bible come from are called _____.
- a. the Latin Vulgate
 - b. the Greek texts
 - c. the Original Manuscripts
 - d. the Textus Receptus
9. It took about 1,000 years to write the Bible from start to finish.
- a. True
 - b. False
10. The Roman Catholic's Apocrypha is also considered to be inspired canons of scripture since it is found in many Bibles.
- a. True
 - b. False

Memory Verses are 5 points each

I Peter 1:23

Jeremiah. 23:29

Psalms 119:105

James 1:22-23
