It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.
Proverbs 25:2

Prayer Study # 436

THE WORD REVISITED
AND
TERMS YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR BIBLE STUDY

First Love Ministries of Perry, Georgia USA

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal [of human devising], *but mighty through God to the pulling down* [demolishing] *of strongholds* [fortresses], *casting down imaginations* [arguments, vain reasoning and analyzing] *and every high thing* [high mental thought or thing] *that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God* [THE WORD], *and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*
2nd Corinthians 10:4-5

"We believe God's Word and know it is TRUE. Jeremiah 1:12 says that God watches over His Word to perform it, and Isaiah 55:11 says His Word will not return to Him void but will accomplish what it is sent to do. Knowing this, we can pray the Word about a situation and expect God-kind of results. The person we pray for has a free choice whether to accept what God has for him or her, and by praying the WORD on their behalf, we give them the benefit of choosing either life or death, blessing, or cursing, going God's way or their own way (Deuteronomy 30:19). As we confess His Word, believe it, read it, speak it and act on it we begin to merge with it, and it becomes our way of life. As we live the Word, His strength, His ability, His peace, His love, His joy, His confidence, and His faith become ours. As we pray His Word, the weary ones, the weak ones, the deceived ones, the sick ones will be ministered to, protected by and brought greatly to our Good Shepherd." - Pat Carver

TWO TYPES OF WORD: LOGOS AND RHEMA

The reason the New Testament was written in Greek was because, not only was it the universal language much as English is today, but it also is a very precise language. For example, in English we have the word *love.* We say we love golfing. We also love our wives. But I would hope that that feeling you have towards your wife is not the same feeling you have for golf. In Greek there are 4 different words all of which we translate as *love.* But these words are very specific and range from erotic love to God's love. Similarly, in Greek we have two words that we translate as WORD, meaning the Bible word. But in the Greek, these are very different. The first is *Logos.*

It refers to all of the written, canonized scripture. *In the beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with God, and the Logos was God* (John 1:1).

Rhema, on the other hand, is a specific "word" from the Word. This can come in to you from *a still small voice,* from a prophet, or from a quickening of your spirit as you read the Logos. When Paul says in Romans 10:8: "*...The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach),* he is speaking of a Rhema word. Although Isaiah 55:11 is in Hebrew, most likely the Word that will not return void is a Rhema word.

SPECIAL WORD SCRIPTURES

1. Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible with 176 verses (all but a couple refer directly to the Word of God). Verse 9 tells us that the Word cleanses us. (This is typed by the brazen laver filled with water with which the priest washed himself in the Old Testament Tabernacle). Verse 24 tells us that the Word is our counselor. Verse 105 tells us that the Word is our guide. Verse 165 tells us that the Word gives us peace.
2. Psalm 107:20-*He sent His Word and healed them and delivered them from all their destructions.*
3. Mark 4 (This parable is repeated in Luke 8)-*And he began again to teach by the seaside; and there was gathered unto Him a great multitude, so that He entered into a boat and sat on the sea, and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land. And He taught them many things by parables and said unto them in His doctrine, Hearken: Behold, there went out a sower to sow. And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the wayside, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it. And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth, and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up, it was scorched, and because it had no root, it withered away. And some fell among thorns and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. And other fell on good ground and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased and brought forth some thirtyfold and some sixty and some an hundred. And He said unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. And when He was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of Him the parable. And He said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God, but unto those who are outside all these things are done in parables, that seeing they may see and not perceive, and hearing they may hear and not understand, lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them. And He said unto them, Know ye not this parable? And how, then will ye know all parables? The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the wayside, where the word is sown, but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. And these are they in the manner that are sown on stony ground, who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness, and have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time;*

afterwards, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. And these are they that are sown among the thorns, such as hear the word. And the cares of this age and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they that are sown on good ground; such as hear the word and receive it and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty and some an hundred.

4. John 1:1-*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
5. Ephesians 6:17-…*the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.*

<u>JESUS CHRIST - The Incarnate Word</u>

In Genesis He is the Seed of the Woman.
In Exodus He is the Passover Lamb.
In Leviticus He is our High Priest.
In Numbers He is the Pillar of Cloud by Day and the Pillar of Fire by Night.
In Deuteronomy He is the Prophet like unto Moses.
In Joshua He is the Captain of our Salvation.
In Judges He is our Judge and Lawgiver.
In Ruth He is our Kinsman Redeemer.
In 1st and 2nd Samuel He is our Trusted Prophet.
In Kings and Chronicles He is our Reigning King.
In Ezra He is our Faithful Scribe.
In Nehemiah He is the Rebuilder of the Broken Down Wall of human life.
In Esther He is our Mordecai.
In Job He is our Dayspring from on High and our Ever-living Redeemer.
In Psalms He is the Lord our Shepherd.
In Proverbs and Ecclesiastes He is our Wisdom.
In the Song of Solomon He is the Lover and the Bridegroom.
In Isaiah he is the Prince of Peace.
In Jeremiah He is the Righteous Branch.
In Lamentations He is the Weeping Prophet.
In Ezekiel He is the Wonderful Four-Faced Man.
In Daniel He is the Fourth Man in the Burning Fiery Furnace.
In Hosea He is the Faithful Husband, forever married to the backslider.
In Joel He is the Baptizer with the Holy Ghost and Fire.
In Amos He is our Burden Bearer.
In Obadiah He is the Mighty to Save.
In Jonah He is our Great Foreign Missionary.
In Micah He is the Messenger of Beautiful Feet carrying the Gospel.
In Nahum He is the Avenger of God's Elect.

In Habakkuk He is God's Evangelist, crying, "Revive thy work in the midst of the years."
In Zephaniah He is our Savior.
In Haggai He is the Restorer of God's Lost Heritage.
In Zechariah He is the Fountain of Cleansing Opened in the House of David for sin and uncleanness.
In Malachi he is the Sun of Righteousness, rising with healing in His wings.
In Matthew he is the Messiah.
In Mark He is the Wonder-worker.
In Luke He is the Son of Man.
In John He is the Son of God.
In Acts He is the Holy Spirit.
In Romans He is the Justifier.
In Corinthians He is the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
In Galatians He is the Redeemer from the Curse of the Law.
In Ephesians He is the Christ of Unsearchable Riches.
In Philippians He is the God Who Supplies All Our Needs.
In Colossians He is the fullness of the Godhead Bodily.
In 1st and 2nd Thessalonians He is our Soon-coming King.
In 1st and 2nd Timothy He is our Mediator between God and Man.
In Titus He is our Faithful Pastor.
In Philemon He is a Friend that Sticketh Closer than a Brother.
In Hebrews He is the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant.
In James He is the Great Physician.
In 1st and 2nd Peter he is the Chief Shepherd who soon shall appear with a crown of unfading Glory.
In 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John he is Everlasting Love.
In Jude He is the Lord coming with Ten Thousands of His Saints.
In Revelation He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

Psalm 138:2

A most interesting scripture about the Word of God comes from the Lord Himself in Psalm 138:2b, where He indicates that He values His Word even more than He values His own Name, the name whereby we are saved and whereby demons flee! And indeed John 1 tells us that He, as the Word, became flesh and dwelled among us.

...for Thou has magnified Thy word above all Thy name.

From Pat Carver Ministries, Inc.:

Since God so loved the World that He gave His only Son, Jesus, and I have believed in Him and made Him my Lord (John 3:16, Romans 10:8-10), I am a new creature, old things have passed away, all things are new, and I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (2nd Corinthians 5:17-21). I have been delivered from the authority and power of darkness (sickness, disease, worry, sadness, doubt, fear, loneliness, despair, rejection) and translated into the Kingdom of His Dear Son (Colossians 1:13). I am blessed with all spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:13). There is no condemnation, and I am free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:1-2). I am more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37). I am healed and whole (1st Peter 2:24). I reign in life by Christ Jesus (Romans 5:17). I am complete in Him (Colossians 2:0-10).

ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF GOD YOU ARE:

New Creation, Heir of God, Joint-Heir with Jesus, One with the Word, Righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, In perfect health, Chosen One, Blessed with every spiritual blessing, Standing and acting on the Word, Doer of the Word, Free from law and tradition, Free from want, In favor with God and man, Saved, Redeemed, Sanctified, Forgiven, Eternal, Resurrected with Him, Victorious in all things, Cleansed from all unrighteousness, More than a conqueror, Abiding in Him, Carefree, Oak of Righteousness, Wealthy in all things, Part of His Body, Having no lack in anything, Set apart, Peculiar, a Gift, Salt, a Believer, a Branch of the Vine, High and lifted up into Heavenly Places, an Overcomer, Partaker of His Divine Nature, a Member of the Royal Family, Unwavering, Loving, Redeemed from the curse of the law and its ability to rule over you, Forgiving, Full of joy, Tenderhearted, Delivered from Evil, Far from oppression and fear, Blessed of the Father, Temple of the Holy Spirit, Single-minded to His Word, Strong in Him and the Power of His might, a Faith being, Walking in Victory, Healed, Steadfast, Reigning in life, Speaking faith-filled words, God-inside minded, Pulling down enemy strongholds in Jesus Name, Beloved in the brethren, Complete in Him, Bearing fruit that remains, Peaceful, Casting down any thoughts contrary to His Word and thinking on those things that are pure, lovely, honest and of good report, Clad in His full armor and trusting in His Ability.

Other Bible Study Terms We Need to Know

SYMBOL: Something which is itself, and yet stands for or represents something else. For example, the American flag is a flag, but it stands for or represents America. Scripture is full of symbols. These include categories such as Symbolic Actions (Walking symbolizes your walk of faith and making progress-Psalm 1:2-4); Symbolic Colors (Blue symbolizes the Holy Spirit or Heaven-Numbers 15:38); Symbolic Creatures (a dog symbolizes an unclean one or a nonbeliever-2nd Peter 2:21-22); Symbolic Directions (South symbolizes place of refreshment-Psalm 126:4); Symbolic Numbers (Eight symbolizes new beginnings-Exodus 22:30); Symbolic Man-made Objects (Anchor symbolizes security of the believer-Hebrews 6:19-20); Symbolic Natural Objects (Milk symbolizes the foundational truths of the Word-1st Corinthians 3:2 & Hebrews 5:12-14); Symbolic Human Objects (Hair symbolizes a woman's glory-1st Corinthians 11:5); Symbolic Mineral Objects (Oil symbolizes the Holy Spirit-1st John 2:20 & 27); Symbolic Objects in the Sky (Cloud symbolizes Shekinah Glory-Revelations 14:14); Symbolic Vegetables (Corn symbolizes the Word of God-Psalm 78:24); Symbolic Religious Objects (Candlesticks symbolize the church-Revelation 1:12-20); Symbolic Supernatural Objects (Red Dragon symbolizes Satan-Revelation 12:3); Symbolic Places (Red Sea symbolizes water baptism-Exodus 14:21-22 & 1st Corinthians 10:1-2); Symbols in Moses' Tabernacle (Incense symbolizes life of prayer and intercession-John 17 & Exodus 25:6); Symbols in Revelation (Trumpet symbolizes prophetic utterance-Numbers 10:1-10 & Isaiah 58:1); and Symbols Identified with Jesus (the Bridegroom symbolizes Jesus-Ephesians 5).

Ways to Interpret Symbols

a. Sometimes the Bible interprets its own symbols as when Jesus interpreted the symbols of the seed and the sower in Luke 8:4-15.
b. Symbols are interpreted by the whole context of scripture. Because many symbols are used more than once in the Bible, we compare each usage to see the commonality of each passage.
c. An individual symbol uninterpreted in the Bible is interpreted by the student of scripture by the context where it is found and by clues from the nature of the symbol, i.e. swine were considered unclean by the Jews. When swine are used as a symbol, therefore, the nature of the symbol would have to be negative.

Also, remember that sometimes a symbol can be used to symbolize more than one thing in scripture. The lion is used to symbolize Christ, the saints, and the devil (Revelation 5:5, 1st Peter 5:8, etc.). Finally, symbols often have good and bad applications or positive and negative connotations. For example, birds symbolize spirits, but these can be either good or bad. The dove, a bird, symbolizes the Holy Spirit. The raven symbolizes an evil spirit.

TYPE: Types are prophetic symbols having foreshadowing characteristics. While symbols may represent a thing, either past, present, or future, a type is a foreshadowing of something future from itself. The rock in Psalms 18:2 is a symbol, not a type. The candlesticks in Revelation 1:20 are symbols, not types. The lamb in John 1:29 is a symbol, not a type. The rainbow in Genesis 9:13-16 is a symbol, not a type. The color white in Revelations 19:8 is a symbol, not a type. The number 666 in Revelation 13:18 is a symbol, not a type. But Adam in Romans 5:14 is a type, not a symbol. The offices of Prophet, Priest and King in 1st Kings 1:34 are types, not symbols. The Tabernacle of Moses in Exodus 25-40 is a type, not a symbol. In Exodus 17 the historical event of the smiting of the rock is a type of the crucifixion of Christ. Within this type there are symbolic elements such as the rock and the rod, which are symbols, not types.

Types can be persons (Adam as a type of Christ -Romans 5:12-21); offices (Aaronic Priesthood is a type of Christ's Priesthood); institutions (The Mosaic Tabernacle is typical of heaven-Hebrews 8:1-5); events (Paul writes of several historical events of Israel's wandering in the wilderness as being typical of events in the experience of the New Testament Church, saying *these things were our examples* or types and *now all these things happened unto them for ensamples* or types-1st Corinthians 10:1-11).

CANON: The term *canon* comes from a Greek word that means *a rule.* In the 4th Century the Church fathers came up with an authoritative list of the books of the Bible. This left out some books, the Apocrypha, which most believed was edifying reading, but not Holy Spirit breathed inerrant word of God. The Old Testament books specifically had to have two criteria. First, they were books acknowledged by the Jews and also were endorsed and found in the writings of the New Testament. These books were written down so that they could be sent to other places and so that they would remain reliable and accurate, something often missing in oral tradition. Today, while most agree on the actual books included in the Old and New Testament, i.e. those canonized by the Church fathers, there is still a lot of debate and dispute.

INERRANCY OF SCRIPTURE: Inerrancy, a viewpoint that First Love Ministries ascribe to, means that there are not mistakes in the original languages (Hebrew for Old Testament and Greek for New Testament) of the Bible writing. There are mistakes in some translations into other languages, but these, in general, are minor. The King James Bible is considered to be one of the more accurate translations.

LITERAL: To be literal means that things happened as exactly as they are recorded. While we stand on the principle that Bible events happened exactly as they are recorded in the Word (for example, there really was a flood and Mary really was a virgin when she

birthed Jesus), there are some things in scripture that are more allegorical, metaphorical and symbolic in nature.

METAPHOR: a word or phrase literally denotes one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness or analogy between the two things (ex. The ship plowed through the sea).

SIMILE: a special kind of metaphor using the words *Like* or *as*

PARABLE: s short fictitious story that illustrates a moral attitude or a religious principle

APOLOGETICS: a branch of theology devoted to the defense of the divine origin and authority of the Bible and of Christianity

EXEGESIS: an explanation or critical interpretation of a text

APOCRYPHA: early Christian writings of dubious authenticity, included in the Septuagint (a pre-Christian Greek translation of the Jewish Bible which was later adopted by Greek speaking Christians) and the Vulgate (a Latin version of the Bible authorized and used by the Roman Catholic Church) but excluded from the Jewish and Protestant canons of the Old and New Testaments.

APOCALYPSE: One of the Jewish and Christian writings from 200 BC to AD 150 characterized by symbolic imagery and the expectation of an imminent cosmic cataclysm in which God destroys the ruling powers of evil and raises the righteous to life in a messianic kingdom. The prophetic book of Revelation is the most famous apocalyptic writing.

HYPERBOLE: Gross exaggeration (ex. mile high ice cream cones)

IDIOM: an expression peculiar to a people or community or class that cannot be derived from the meaning of its individual words (ex. *a penny for your thoughts; not in a blue moon; kick the bucket*) Scripture is full of Jewish idiomatic expressions (*slept with his fathers, clean hands, circumcise your ears, If you right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you*-Matthew 5:29)