

Foundations For Your Faith – Lesson 4 Hebrews 4:12-13 NIV How to Study the Bible (Bibliology)

Read Hebrews 4:1-13 carefully, several times, and then answer the following questions from the verses as noted.

Part 1 Hebrews 4:12-13

Hebrews 4:12 Define the following words using a dictionary or Bible dictionary

- Living
- Active
- What does a “physical sword” pierce and divide?
- Why is the Word of God said to be “sharper than any double edged sword”?
- What does a “physical sword” judge?
- What does the Word of God “judge”?
- Hebrews 4:13 Who meant by “*him* to whom we must give account”?
- Define: Accountability

Part 2 Hebrews 4:12-13

- Write down a minimum of five observations for verse 12 and also verse 13
- Make a list of “key words” in each verse, and write out a definition for each one.
- Find at least two synonyms for each of your key words.
- Find at least two antonyms for each of your key words.
- Now, write out both verses *using your own words (paraphrase)* and include the information you’ve discovered from your study.

**Quiz on Lesson 4 NIV
Foundations for Your Faith (Bibliology)**

- 1. What two attributes of God's Word are given in Heb. 4:12?**
- 2. The Word of God is sharper than what instrument?**
- 3. A sword can divide the body from the soul; what can the Word of God divide?**
- 4. A sword can discern (judge) actions; what does the Word of God discern (judge)?**
- 5. Comparing 2 Tim. 3:16, Genesis 2:7, and Hebrews 4:12, complete the analogy ... Because the Bible is _____ - _____ (2 Tim. 3:16) it is _____, and able therefore to give _____ to those who receive it.**
- 6. Review – Match the Key Terms to the Chapters where we find them**

Justification

2 Peter 1

Inspiration

2 Cor. 5 & Romans 4

Imputation

Romans 3

Authors carried along

Hebrews 4

Word of God is alive

2 Timothy 3

Teacher's Guide Foundations For Your Faith – Lesson 4 NIV
Hebrews 4:12-13
The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible (Bibliology)

Read Hebrews 4:1-13 carefully, several times, and then answer the following questions from the verses as noted.

Word study is important, especially in the Epistles.

Not so crucial in narratives. Sea of Galilee means Sea of Galilee. No mystery here.

But in the epistles, a clear and precise understanding of the words is essential.

Theological words require precision. Words give us the big picture.

We need a good Bible Dictionary!

Hebrews 4:12 Define the following words using a dictionary or Bible dictionary

Living: **alive, life giving, able to reproduce life**

(KJV: quick – alive – quick and dead, cut to the quick, quick sand, etc)

The bible is the only book that is alive; all others are dead.

The thoughts of man perish.

Men's words have no power to change the inner life, the character of a man.

The only way a spiritually dead sinner can come to life, is if life touches him and imparts life to him. *The Word of God is the means of regeneration.*

The Holy Spirit is the agent of regeneration.

Ex. Spontaneous Generation: Rotten Meat & Maggots

The fly lays the egg and it becomes a maggot.

"Ex-nihilo nihil fit" :Out of nothing, nothing comes

"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

In order for the Word of God to bring life to a dead sinner, it must be alive itself.

It is not only alive, but it is life giving, life producing, and life creating

God said "and it was" .Genesis 1

Genesis 2:7 God breathed "breath of life" living soul

2 Tim 3:16 –The Word is God-breathed, Genesis 2:7, breath of life...living soul

Because the Word is *God breathed*, is it *alive* and able to *give life* to those to whom it is imparted (implanted):

1 Peter 1:23 "born again of the Word of God."

No one is ever born-again without the Word of God.

There is a seed that rots (corruptible) and a seed that will not rot (alive)

Ex. Parable of the Sower...

We Sow the Word; but it takes the Holy Spirit to plow the heart deep and cultivate it clean so the word is not choked or snatched away. **Repentance and faith are the result of the plow and seed of regeneration by the Holy Spirit through the gospel.**

If there is no new birth, then there is no real or lasting change.

"Leave a man hopeless and you create a bum!"

"Give a man religion without Christ you create a Pharisee in a 3 piece suit."

Either way you still have a spiritually dead sinner...hopeless or respectable, but lost

Ex. You can wash a pig, but it will still go back and wallow in the mud! The Word must be met with the Holy Spirit to produce the miracle transformation called the New Birth.

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the Bride say come! Both are essential. The Bride (church) proclaims the gospel (living Word) and the Spirit applies it to the heart, creating life.

**Active: "energes" – energy – able to do, operative, causing reaction,
Productive, accomplishes its purpose**

Read: *Isaiah 55:11*

Luke 1:37 . ~~For~~ nothing is impossible with God:

Literal translation (Gk)

~~For~~ every word of God is not without its power+

Every word of God is accompanied by the power of God.

How do I get a message across?

I use individual words (rema) to get the (logos) word-message across.

Every individual word of God is not without God's power behind it.

It is the words of God that retain the power of God!

What does a "physical sword" pierce and divide?

Pierces the physical body, divides body & soul – executes, death

Only the Word of God is sharp enough to divide soul from spirit!

Why is the Word of God said to be "sharper than any double edged sword"?

The physical sword pierces the body . the Word of God pierces the soul

The sword can judge actions, Word judges motives, thoughts, intents

The Word can go to places that the sword cannot go.

What does a "physical sword" judge? *Sinful acts....* brings death

What does the Word of God "judge"?

Sinful attitudes, motives, thoughts, desires

The Word of God works in my conscience...brings repentance & life

Nothing hidden, everything uncovered and laid bare – body, soul, mind, spirit

We as Christians all will someday give an account for our lives before God.

A day of reckoning of what we did with all the time and ability He gave us.

1 John 2: 28-3:3 Read it: "not be ashamed" = turn away in shame..

Good rules: "Is this what you *want to be doing* when the Lord comes?"

"Is this where you *want to be found* when the Lord comes?"

Would you be doing this *if Jesus were visibly* standing next to you?

(Driving on Route 80 . everybody doing 65mph? Why?

Must be a cop near by . knowing we are accountable controls our decisions.

Fear of God.

Hebrews 4:13 Who meant by "him to whom we must give account"? GOD

Define: Accountability – to be answerable to, to be responsible to

To be responsible to,

To stand before a judge to be held responsible for what I have done in regards to the rules and authority placed over my life.

To face the consequences of my choices before one who holds the power & authority over my life to act as judge and jury.

Part 2 Hebrews 4:12-13

Write down a minimum of five observations for

Verse 12

- **The Word we are talking about is the Word of God – Divine origin**
- **The Word of God is alive – living, able to give life – not dead**
- **The Word of God is active – not passive, useless, stuck, or powerless**
- **It is sharper than any two-edged sword – sharper than any human blade**
- **It pierces deeper than any human cutting instrument**
- **It divides the soul and the spirit**
- **It divides the joints and the marrow – the living and non-living parts of man**
- **It discerns my thoughts, motives and attitudes of my heart**

Verse 13

- **Nothing is hidden from God – anywhere, anytime**
- **All things are exposed.**
- **He sees everything.**
- **Everyone will give an account to God**
- **All that is exposed and seen will be judged**

- **Make a list of “key words” in each verse, and a definition for each one.**

Find at least two synonyms for each key word.

Find at least two antonyms for each key word.

Alive: alive, life giving, able to reproduce life, creative

ant: dead, lifeless, powerless, decaying

Active: energizing, at work, potent, causing action, syn. potent, mighty

ant: immobile, inactive, static, held motionless, useless, non-productive

soul = inner life of man, what I am, place of thought, will, emotion

spirit = that part of man that communicates with God – dead in sins

thoughts = ideas, desires, planning

attitudes = motive, motivation, focus

sharper = More cutting and penetrating power syn. acute, intense

ant. dull, blunt.

piercing = To go through syn. penetrate, stab

ant. Impenetrable

judges = Divide or separate; discern; perceive reality syn. sift, analyze

ant. overlook, accept without analysis, assume

Nothing hidden = everything exposed to view, to appear, be seen,

ant: hidden, hiding, covered up, unseen

Uncovered = Open, exposed, not covered, syn. plain, unadorned, as it is

ant. Covered, disguised, fake

Laid bare = Opened up, cut open,

ant. closed, sewn shut, fig leaves

To give account = reckoning, answer in reference to judgment

C. Shaw: “every man must take his own hide to market”

ant. To get away with, to escape justice, to flee

Creation is sufficient to send a man to Hell, but insufficient to bring a man to Heaven!

We go to Hell because we are sinners against a Holy God.

We go to Hell because of the justice of God.

We go to Heaven by the grace of God

- Now, write out both verses using your own words (paraphrase) and include in these verses the information you discovered from your research.

Paraphrase:

God's word is alive, life giving, accomplishing His purpose as it goes forth. It pierces beyond the physical, into the very soul of man, revealing and pronouncing judgment not only on our actions, but also on our thoughts, motives, inner desires and intentions. The Word of God sees what no man can ever see . the soul and spirit of man . and lays bare the conscience and heart of every man no matter who, no matter where. And every man will be held accountable before God for every action, every thought, every motive, and every desire, whether or not it results in a physical action. God's judgment of me will be thorough, complete, absolute and inescapable. His Word is the means of revealing to me my desperate situation, and the means of leading me to repentance and forgiveness.

What motivates you?

The difference between a hypocrite and a Christian is not just in what he does, but the thoughts and the intents of the heart...the motives and inner desires.

Both the true Christian and the imposter go to church. Both tithe.

If the thoughts and intents are impure, then the offering is impure. (Malachi)

If I am to really grow spiritually, I must live in the light of the searchlight of God's Word continually.

Bible reading plan:

1 chapter in Book of Proverbs – day of the month

3 chapters a day using your pen & a small notebook (Or, 6 books a month)

Underline favorite verse or phrase in each chapter.

Note some thoughts and what impresses you that you want to remember.

Mark verses or chapters you want to memorize in the future

See introductory material for Foundations for a review of the daily bible reading plan.