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It is disturbing in our day for someone who is a Christian and is dedicated to serving God to turn his back on Him and forget what Christ has done. It is truly like a dog returning to its own vomit and a sow, after washing, returning to wallow in the mire (**II Peter 2:22**).

It is not by accident that the Bible is filled with passages emphasizing the importance of steadfastness, faithfulness, overcoming & holding fast. Consider these passages: **Revelation 2-3** (Letters to the seven churches), **I Corinthians 15:1-2, 58; Hebrews 11** (Chapter of Faith), **Hebrews 2:1; 3:6, 14; 4:14; 10:23; Colossians 1:23** and a host of others.

Even with all our weaknesses, let us strive to remain true to the Lord and determine to be faithful to Him (**Rev. 2:10**).

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Times of Assembly:

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:45am
Morning Worship 10:45am
Evening Worship 5:30pm

Wednesday:

Bible Class 7:30pm

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The Lilbourn Light



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" -Psalm 119:105



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Repenting of Repentance

If you've ever read the short book of Nahum, you're likely to think that it's not very uplifting. That's because Nahum spoke of the destruction of Assyria and its capital city Nineveh.

Nahum revealed the judgment of God as He spoke against Assyria. Twice the Lord says, *"I am against you!"* (**2:13; 3:5**).

Years before, in compassion and for His own reasons, God had sent the "unmotivated" prophet Jonah to

preach to Nineveh. At that time the people repented and the city was spared. As you probably recall, Jonah wasn't happy about it (**Jonah 4:1**).

Few things are worse than "repenting of repentance," but that's what happened to Assyria. A later generation returned to their forefathers' evil ways. Assyria then attacked Israel, and God determined to punish her.

"The Lord is slow to anger" (Nahum 1:3) but He is just and will not let sin go unpunished (1:3-6). Nineveh was about to

In Writing

In times past, many deals and agreements were made with spoken words and a hand shake. Your word was considered “good enough” and you were expected to keep it. We have moved past that time in many ways. Although verbal agreements are considered a contract in some aspects, most business today consists of written agreements or contracts.

Spoken words are often forgotten or can be easily changed when they are repeated. Just think of where we would be religiously today, if all we had were the spoken, verbal words passed on from one generation to the next. It would perhaps be an even more divided mess than what we see in our current religious world.

Written words, however, are not dependent on our memories and they can't be so easily ignored or changed.

In the Old Testament, when God spoke to the people of Israel, He told His prophets to write down what He said. The following passages show that God did not want His words to be forgotten or misrepresented (Dt. 5:22; Jer. 36:2; Hab. 2:2).

Deut 5:22, *“These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly at the mountain from the midst of the fire, of the cloud and of the thick gloom, with a great voice, and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me.”*

Jer 36:2-3, *“Take a scroll and write on it all the words which I have spoken to you concerning Israel, and concerning Judah, and concerning all the nations, from the day I first spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even to this day. 3 “Perhaps the house of Judah will hear all the calamity*

which I plan to bring on them, in order that every man will turn from his evil way; then I will forgive their iniquity and their sin.”

Hab 2:2, *“Then the LORD answered me and said, “Record the vision And inscribe it on tablets, That the one who reads it may run.”*

Likewise, when Jesus lived on earth, God gave audible approval of His Son (**Mt. 17:5**, *“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, listen to Him”*). It is interesting to me that John, who saw the transfiguration and

heard God's voice from heaven, did not merely tell others about it verbally. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, he wrote a book (the Gospel of John) and three letters (1st, 2nd, & 3rd John) so that all his readers would know truth from error, believe in Christ, and be filled with joy (1 Jn. 1:4).

1 John 1:3-4, *“what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.”*

Notice the progression: Seen & heard, proclaimed, and then written.

John actually records the reason for the writing of his first letter 13 times!!

Remember John is also the one who said, *“Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in*

His name” John 20:30-31.

How powerful the written Word is! We need to be impressed with the blessing and the greatness of God's Word. The purpose of John's writing carries today the same force. When WE read what was written WE can believe that Jesus is THE Christ, the Son of God. WE may have life in His name!

Spoken words are often forgotten or can be easily changed when they are repeated.

What is your reaction when you read the words of the Bible? Do you ignore them or does it cause you to change your life?

— Shane Williams

God's Plan for Saving Man

- ⇒ **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:17)
- ⇒ **Believe** the Gospel (Hebrews 11:6; John 20:31)
- ⇒ **Repent** of Past Sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- ⇒ **Confess Faith** in Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32)
- ⇒ **Be Baptized** in water (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Gal. 3:27; I Pet. 3:21)
- ⇒ **Be Faithful** until/ unto Death (Rev. 2:10)