



Berean Christian Fellowship

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The Word That Grabs Our Attention

“O land, land, land, Hear the word of the Lord!” (Jeremiah 22:29)

In a republic or a democracy, there are many, many leaders who give competing, dissenting words on any given issue. As a result, we probably don't pay as much attention to the voices in our government as we would if we lived in a dictatorship or a monarchy. After all, it's people who have authority that we listen to most, because we know they can change our lives for better or for worse. In just a few words, a dictator can put you out of a job, endanger your family, pardon you from execution, or cause the deaths of millions.

When Mao Zedong published his “Little Red Book” people in China paid attention because the words in this book were deciding their lives and held the power of life and death as they saw it. When Hitler wrote “Mein Kampf,” people across the world paid attention because his words spelled out his plan for the world. Mankind eagerly waits on the words of “great” men to learn what their “policies” and “plans” will be, because they often spell the difference between wealth and ruin, life and death. Yet the physical life they offer is not theirs to give and the death they threaten comes to all mankind. Yes, their words may be an interruption to our earthly plans if we are financially ruined or if we die, but the power we think they have is not truly theirs and it ends abruptly on their deathbed.

How ironic that we wait breathlessly on words of our fellow men which are often forgotten in less than a generation when they, like we also die, but we ignore the words of God! Not only has He given us the breath we have, but He offers His promise in His Word of undamaged, unblemished life that does not taste

even the slightest flavor of death to “*those who hear the word of God and observe it*” (Luke 11:29b). As Believers, we know like Peter (by the Holy Spirit) that Jesus' Words are “*words of eternal life*” (John 6:68b), for “*The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever*” (Isaiah 40:8). The promises of Hitler, Napoleon, and Herod lie as side-notes in museums, the rubble of their nations, and the tombs where their bodies were lain, but God's Word will never be buried, even though people ignore and reject it. It is a great irony that men's words only have power because people are willing to obey them, yet God retains all power in Heaven and Earth though all Earth and Heaven rebel against His Word.

It is the saddest thing in the world that people cling in *rigor mortis* to words that turn to dust in their hands rather than embrace the fruitful Words of Life. Just as God warned Israel, “*‘days are coming,’ declares the Lord God, ‘When I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, But rather for hearing the words of the Lord’*” (Amos 8:11), so “*the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths*” (2 Timothy 4:3-4), yet we are to “*preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction*” (2 Timothy 4:2), because God's Word is the only plan and policy of Salvation through Jesus to all mankind and is the only word that undoes the world's worst.

We ought to share with each other and the world how God's Word “*became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; For I have been called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts*” (Jeremiah 15:16). Even so. Amen.

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