

Scripture Reading

A Reading of the Book of Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 40:8)

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. The Word of the Lord. R.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection – The Word of God cannot be altered by any person or power, and stands forever

Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens (Ps 119:89). *Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away (Matthew 24:35).* God's Word is eternal because God's Son, Jesus Christ stands behind it. Jesus is the Incarnate Word of God. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made (John 1:1-3).*

God's Word cannot be altered, distorted or misinterpreted by any person or power (cf. Deuteronomy 4:2, Revelation 22:18-19). Increasing lack of faith has led the direction in which the truth of the Word of God is increasingly being watered down. Man has attempted to bring Science in to explain what rational minds cannot explain. Science is given by God to explain the physical world which God created through utterance of His Word (cf. Ps 33:9, Hebrews 11:3, Genesis 1:3, Ps 148:5). Science, the creature gets out of depth when it tries to explain the actions of its Creator. For His part, God has warned us in no uncertain terms not to tamper with His sacred words (cf. Deuteronomy 4:2, Revelation 22:18-19). His punishment for so doing is by no means light. He has given us a hint on how to understand His Word better. *Jesus said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children." (Matthew 11:25).*

God's promises are trustworthy and will be fulfilled in His time. Whatever is written in God's Word will be fulfilled in God's time. *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished (Matthew 5:16-17).* Jesus came to fulfill what is written in God's Word about the promised Messiah. God's promises can be totally trusted. He cannot lie as He is the Truth, and nothing is impossible for God for He has dominion over all things, visible or invisible. *God is not human, that He should lie, not a human being, that He should change His mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill? (Numbers 23:19).*

God's Word has power and purpose. *As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is My word that goes out from My mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it (Isaiah 55:10-11).* We see power in God's Word when He gave the command and creation out of nothing comes about. The power of God's Word is also clearly manifested when Jesus simply quoted the relevant Scripture when Satan tempted Him when He was fasting in the desert, driving Satan away. St Paul tells us the sword of the Spirit is the Word of God which forms an important part of the armour of God (cf. Ephesians 6:17).

Conversation with Jesus

Precious Lord, You say to me: Man does not live on bread alone but on every Word that comes from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). Give me a deep love and reverence for Your Word. Let it be the joy of my heart and light to my feet. Help me build my life on Your Word. May I rejoice in the blessedness of hearing Your Word and keeping it. Your Word is Truth (cf John 17:17). Sanctify me by Your truth so that I may live a life of grace till I reach my final destination in Your home. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pray for me. Thank You Jesus. Praise You Jesus.