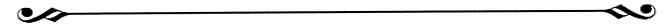


Sunday, August 7, 2022

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

The Bible is God's chart to steer by, to keep one from the bottom of the sea, to show where the harbor is and how to reach it without running aground. —Henry Ward Beecher



If you were asked to describe the Bible, what would you say? You could start with the Lobyious and say it is like a book — a big book of little books inside. Perhaps, you could call it God's autobiography. However, hymnwriter William How (1823-1897), Irish and Anglican vicar, thought the Bible was "a golden casket where gems of truth are stored" (emphasis added). Perhaps it is a key that unlocks timeless truths. Or it is a road map or GPS signal that guides us safely to our eternal home. Or, it's a huge text message or email from God to the human race.

The Bible itself, however, describes itself as a sword: "The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword" (Hebrews 4:12; see also Ephesians 6:17). In Psalm 119:105, we read, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (emphasis added). Jesus described it as bread, when he said to the devil, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Finally, the apostle Peter thought of the Bible as milk, saying "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation" (1 Peter 2:2).

I like how the following poem, attributed to John Clifford, imagines the word of God. The poem is called "The Anvil of God's Word."

Last eve I paused beside the blacksmith's door, And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime; Then looking in, I saw upon the floor, Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

"'How many anvils have you had, 'said I, 'To wear and batter all these hammers so?' 'Just one,' said he, and then with twinkling eye, 'The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.'

"And so, I thought, the Anvil of God's Word For ages skeptic blows have beat upon; Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard, The Anvil is unharmed, the hammers gone."

Yes, just like this ancient anvil, God's word will endure forever.

-Timothy Merrill

Prayer: O God, thank you for the Book above all books that has given me guidance for so many n.

HomeTouch® | Visit us at: HomeTouchMinistry.com | © 2022 CRI, PO Box 9290, Canton OH 44711 vears! Amen.

Week of August 7, 2022





Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: James 1-2 Monday: Jeremiah 9-12 Tuesday: Jeremiah 13-16 Wednesday: Jeremiah 17-20 Thursday: Jeremiah 21-23 Friday: Jeremiah 24-26 Saturday: Psalms 85-87

Things in Common

What is one thing shared by all three items in the same group?

A: a cow, a shoe, a baby

B: a doctor's office, a post office, music

C: a zipper, a shark, a comb

D: restaurant goer, a bird, the Senate

E: a potato, a hurricane, a target

F: a river, a person, a cave

Answers: Things in Common— A. a tongue, B. a scale (or a key), C. teeth, D. a bill, E. an eye, F. a mouth. Yea or Nay?—Yes. The day before the day after the day before today was yesterday. The day after the day before today is today. And the day before today was yesterday. And the day before today was yesterday. That is why yesterday was hotter than today. Riddle 1—An ear of corn or a chicken. Riddle 2—By going from one spot to another. THE SAME AS—1. Pressure; 2. Effectiveness; 3. Lively; 4. Disaster; 5. Humanistic; 6. Expedite; 7. Undefinable; 8. Agreement; 6. Chadizat, 10. Todizat.

VERSE TO REMEMBER

If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. —James 1:5

Yea or Nay?

Read the following question and then answer with either a "yes" or a "no."

If the day before the day after the day before today was hotter than the day after the day before today, was the day before today hotter than today?

RIDDLE

You throw away the outside and cook the inside. Then you eat the outside and throw away the inside. What did you eat?

THE SAME AS ... Can you identify the word that has a similar meaning (synonym)?

- 1. COERCE: reduce, mislead, improve, pressure.
- 2. EFFICACY: effectiveness, effortlessly, emergency, morality.
- 3. EBULLIENT: daring, violent, lively, ready.
- 4. CATACLYSM: wonder, disaster, miracle, session.
- 5. ALTRUISTIC: greedy, humanistic, selfish, inconsiderate.
- 6. FACILITATE: worsen, hurt, block, expedite.
- 7. ENIGMA: undefinable, appease, clarify, enlighten
- 8. CONSENSUS: agreement, denial, refusal, opposition.
- 9. DOCILE: observant, obedient, headstrong, resistant.
- 10. EMPHATIC: weak, insistent, remorseful, trite.

RIDDLE 2

What is the only way a leopard will change his spots?

