

Living And Active

2-16-25

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

We must continue our journey with Jesus by the breathed-out Word of God letting HIS Word permeate every part of our experience. The Word is *living* reflecting the true character of God, the source of all life. This living quality keeps the Word from ever becoming a dead code, dead letters on a page. The second characteristic of the Word of God is *active* revealing that the living Word explodes into divine activity that challenges every aspect of our life and pursues us and cries out to us to make a personal decision. Jesus clearly understood the life giving and empowering activity of the Word of God. In Mathew 4:4 when tempted by Satan to turn stones into bread, Jesus quoted the Word of God, Deuteronomy 8:3, “Man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.” The entire verse gives us a much deeper insight.

Deuteronomy 8:3 (ESV)

And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that God might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

The purpose of Deuteronomy and Mathew is, “that God might make us know” that the Word of God is living and active. In Deuteronomy, these people were in the wilderness in order for God to teach them to live by the Word of God. For us to not live in the wilderness we need to learn to trust the Word of God. Jeremiah understood this.

Jeremiah 15:16 (ESV)

YOUR WORDS were found, and I ate them,
and YOUR WORDS became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart.

When we rest in God’s Words and they are a joy to us. We trust in God’s Word because by HIS Word, HE brought creation into existence, and HIS Word can never be rendered ineffective.

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)

So shall MY WORD be that goes out from MY MOUTH; it shall not return to ME empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

When our hearts are set upon HIM, God living and active continually speaks to us.

Isaiah 30:21 (ESV)

And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way, walk in it.”

The emphasis of the penetrating character of the Word is expressed by the statement “sharper” than any double-edged sword. The penetrating Word is *Piercing to the division of soul and spirit*. Our soul is our mind, will, and emotions regardless of our spiritual experience. Our spirit is that portion of our inner being that relates to God. The living and active Word thus judges our *thoughts and intentions* of our heart. Nothing, not even our innermost thoughts, are shielded from God. It is not so much about what we are doing. It is more about what we are thinking.

Hebrews 4:13 (NIV)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of God to whom we must give account.

Do we rest in Jesus, do we trust Jesus, do we do what Jesus tells us? Jesus knows what we are thinking and one day we will “have a little talk” with Jesus concerning our actions. We are secure in Jesus, however:

1 Corinthians 3:15 (ESV)

If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

To God and God alone we trust and rest secure!

Colossians 2:14 (NIV) **“Cross Overhead”**

God forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; God has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

