

HAGGAI : THE WORD OF GOD PT 3

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*“In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, **came the word of the LORD** by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, 2 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built. 3 **Then came the word of the LORD** by Haggai the prophet, saying.”*

Haggai 1:1-3

We continue this morning to speak on the Word of God as we are considering verses 1 and 3 where it says, “...in the first day of the month, **came the word of the LORD** ...” “**Then came the word of the LORD** by Haggai the prophet ...” The word of God was no doubt important in Haggai’s day and it is just as important in our day. The fact that God spoke to them is a blessing and what a joy that God is still in the business of speaking to us through His Word.

The only difference between Haggai’s day and our day regarding Gods WORD is that in Haggai’s day the WORD of God was in the process of being put together but in our day we have the finality of God’s word, that is; we believe and preach the word of God is complete and there is no further need of any written revelation from God. We have God’s word for in these bibles we hold, that is; from genesis to revelation we have the complete word of God. There is that warning both in Deuteronomy and Revelation of the judgment of those who would add or take out of the word of God, so I hope you see the blessing and privilege we are holding in our hands this morning the Inspired, Infallible and Inerrant Word of God which is the absolute truth of God’s written revelation to us. The warning of Deuteronomy 4:2, “**Ye shall not add unto the word** which I command you, **neither shall ye diminish ought from it**, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.” Revelation 22:18, “**For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.**” It is not a light thing to add or take out of the Word of God, or to attack, criticize or condemn the word of God. Proverbs 13:13, “**Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed**: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.” I hope you take care of your Bible and do not treat it like other books. This book is authoritative and yea sufficient for us today. Notice how David loved the WORD of God in particular Psalm 119:

- Psalms 119:113, “I hate vain thoughts: **but thy law do I love.**”
- Psalms 119:119, “Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth like dross: **therefore I love thy testimonies.**”

- Psalms 119:127, “Therefore **I love thy commandments** above gold; yea, above fine gold.”
- Psalms 119:159, “Consider **how I love thy precepts**: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness.”
- Psalms 119:163, “I hate and abhor lying: but **thy law do I love**.”
- Psalms 119:167, “My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and **I love them exceedingly**.”

As a matter of fact notice how the book of Psalms begins in chapter 1:1-3, “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 **But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.** 3 **And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.**”

Notice also these precious word of David regarding the Scriptures: Ps.119:16-18, “I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word. 17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live, and keep thy word. 18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.” Also in “105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. 129 Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. 130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. 131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments. 133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. 135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.” I debated to just read Psalm 119, yes the whole chapter and then just end the services like that. There is so much in that longest chapter in the Bible, but I want to draw your attention regarding God’s word to Hebrews 4:12, “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” I can assure you that these words here in Hebrews 4:12 are applicable to those in Haggai’s time: When the WORD of God came to Haggai to deliver it to His people: It was quick; that is; ALIVE, it was powerful, it was sharper than any two-edged sword and it pierced their soul and hearts and no doubt was a deep discerner of the thoughts and intents of the hearts of the people in Haggai’s day especially and particularly, those LIVING, POWERFUL, SHARP, PIERCING and DISCERNING WORDS: “CONSIDER YOUR WAYS!” It so much pricked, that is; convicted their hearts, yea it brought a convincing respond in obedience that brought forth a glorious REVIVAL! Look in chapter 1:12-14, “Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, **obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet,** as the LORD their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the LORD. 13 Then spake Haggai the LORD’S messenger in the LORD’S message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD. 14 **And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and **the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people;** and **they came and did work in the house of the LORD of hosts, their God.**” Yes it effectually produced an effect, why? BECAUSE God’s WORD is ALIVE, it is POWERFUL, it is SHARP, it is

PIERCING and it will DISCERN, that is DISCOVER the thoughts and intents of the HEART!

Again, this book you hold in your hands, it is ALIVE, yea; it is a LIVING BOOK! Hebrews 4:12, *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

There are 6 things that I want to consider from this text and no doubt I could preach 2 -3 sermons on each of these points, but we will just hi-light these truths:

- I. **The Word of God is Absolute:** (Word of God)
- II. **The Word of God is Alive:** (Word of God is quick, alive and living)
- III. **The Word of God is Able:** (Word of God is powerful)
- IV. **The Word of God is Acute:** (Word of God is Sharper than...sword)
- V. **The Word of God Accuses:** (Word of God is Piercing)
- VI. **The Word of God is Active:** (Word of God is a Discerner)

The first we will consider is: **I. The Word of God is Absolute:** We take this from the first part of the text where it says: *“For the word of God...”* As we have seen in the last couple of weeks this book you hold in your hands is the Inspired, Infallible and Inerrant Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation, every WORD is inspired, infallible and inerrant. I believe in the Verbal Plenary Inspiration of the Bible, that is; I believe that every word, yea every jot and tittle is inspired by God and is providentially preserved for us. You see this book you hold in your hands is God’s final, full and complete revelation of Himself to man. I have no problem saying that the Word of God is ABSOLUTE! Many say that there are no absolutes, but oh my dear ones, yes there is and it’s the BIBLE you have in your hands and because it is ABSOLUTE it is therefore: AUTHORITATIVE and SUFFICIENT! Not only is it authoritative and sufficient but it is also the FINAL WRITTEN REVELATION of God to man. So when you hear someone say God spoke to me or God said to me to tell you when they speak as though God spoke to them in an audible voice, my advice to you is you better run and get away from them as far as possible. If someone doesn’t come with book chapter and verse, sorry it’s not from God. Do not misconstrue what I’m saying, God still speaks to us today, but it is through His WORD the Bible that He speaks to us. As a

matter of fact in Hebrews 1:1 & 2 we see this: “*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.*” God spoke in times past and He still speaks in these last days. The only difference is that in times past the Word was in process of being put together and He did use visions, dreams and means of theophany, but now it is the final and complete WORD of God, that is; God now speaks only through the means of the Written Word! The blessing is that God spake in the PAST and God still speaks in our PRESENT day, through the WORD of God, through His SON who is the INCARNATE WORD. Therefore the Word of God is complete and we no longer need the signs of the apostles, God no longer gives revelation to men, the Spirit of God gives us understanding and illumination by His WORD, but God does not give additional revelation. You know WHY? Because it is The WORD of GOD is ABSOLUTE! 2 verses and then I’ll get to my next point: 2 Peter 1:19-21, “*We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*” The key word is moved in verse 21 which is the Greek word “**Phero**” which means to bear or carry along, like a ship who let’s down the sail and is carried along by the wind. This word is also in the present tense meaning they were continually carried and borne along by the Spirit of God. It is also in the passive voice indicating that they were not carried along by their own power or means, but that they were carried along or MOVED by an external source which no doubt is the Holy Spirit. Then of course 1 Tim.3:16 & 17, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.” Not only is the Word of God ABSOLUTE: but secondly

II. The Word of God is Alive: (The Word of God is QUICK...) The word of God is quick, that is alive, yea LIVING! The Bible is not some dead letter or book, no it the LIVING BOOK. Isaiah 40:8 says, “*The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*” We will all pass away like the grass and flower, but the Word of God will continue to LIVE on! 1 Peter 1:23-25, “*Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*” The Word quick is the Greek word “**Zao**” which refers to physical or natural life as oppose to death. In other words, the Word of God is not dead or inert, no it is ALIVE, it is LIVING which can produce an effect when quicken by the Spirit of God which we’ll see in a moment. You cannot not kill this word as it will abide forever. The word “**Zao**” is also in the

present tense which means that it will continue as the TRUE WORD of God. Even Christ said that this same Word was LIFE! John 6:63, *"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and **they are life.**"* Listen to the words of Stephen before he was stoned to death in Acts 7:37 & 38, *"This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear. 38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: **who received the lively oracles to give unto us.**"* Charles Spurgeon says, *"The Word of God is alive. This is a living Book. This is a mystery that only living men, quickened by the Spirit of God, will fully comprehend. Take up any other book except the Bible, and there may be a measure of power in it, but there is not that indescribable vitality in it that breathes, and speaks, and pleads, and conquers in the case of this sacred volume. It is only because Jesus is not dead that the Word becomes living and effectual..."* Yes this word is ALIVE and will live on forever as Christ has said even to the smallest jot and tittle, Matt.5:18, *"For verily I say unto you, **Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**"* In Matthew 24:35 Christ said, *"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but **my words shall not pass away.**"* The book you have in your hands is the LIVING word of GOD which will abide forever, that is; the WORD of God is incapable of DYING. There is a lot more here, but time is hand and we must press on: Not only it the Word of God: ABSOLUTE and ALIVE, but thirdly:

III. The Word of God is Able: (Powerful)

The Word of God is quick and powerful: that is; the WORD of God is ABLE. The WORD of God is powerful and effectual. The word for powerful in the Greek is '**Energes**' a compound word with the prefix: '**en**' which means in and '**ergon**' work. This Greek word sets forth that which is effectual, working and operative, yea POWREFUL! This powerful word of God is not only living, that is quick and alive but it gives LIVE! When the Spirit of God quickens HIS WORD to the heart of a sinner is gives life, that is; regeneration. Not the WORD alone, but in the HANDS of the LIVING it will give life. Notice again the words of 1 Peter 1:23, *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, **but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.**"* The Word of God is powerful in that it produces Conviction, Convincing and Conversion. Regeneration is God taking a dead sinner and making him alive and conversion is God quickening His WORD in the sinner to convert him, that is, REPENT and BELIEVE this is always simultaneous, that is; regeneration and conversion, there's no such thing as a gap theory. Romans 1:16, *"For I am not ashamed **of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation** to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."* James 1:18, *"Of his own will **begat he us with the word of truth**, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."* 1 Thess.2:13, *"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, **but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.**"* The word effectually is the same Greek as Powerful on Hebrew 4:12, here in 1 Thessalonians it used as a verb in Hebrews 4:12 it is used as an adjective that is; describing the POWER of God's WORD. Albert Barnes says about the word powerful in Hebrews 4:12, *"Its power is*

seen in awakening the conscience; alarming the fears; laying bare the secret feelings of the heart; and causing the sinner to tremble with the apprehension of the coming judgment. All the great changes in the moral world for the better, have been caused by the power of truth. They are such as the truth in its own nature is fitted to effect; and, if we may judge of its power by the greatness of the revolutions produced, no words can over-estimate the might of the truth which God has revealed.” Charles Spurgeon says this, “Holy Scripture is full of power and energy. The Word of God is that by which sin is slain, and grace is born in the heart. It is the that which brings life with it. How active and energetic it is, when the soul is convinced of sin, in bringing it forth into gospel liberty!” No doubt that the WORD of God is POWERFUL: It is Absolute, Alive, Able and fourthly:

IV. The Word of God is Acute: (Word of God is Sharper than...sword)

The word of God is sharp, it is cutting, there is no blunt side on God’s word and it is a SHARP DOUBLE SIDED SWORD! It is so sharp that it wounds all those who spend time in it. We’ll see in a moment how the word of God cuts into the heart, the soul, the spirit of man, but for now I just want you to see that this Word of God is a cutting Word, but it is a SHARP cutting word and again it has no blunt side to it regardless of the preacher’s lack of eloquence, it is the WORD of God that CUTS! Remember when Peter was preaching on the day of Pentecost those that heard were CUT TO THE HEART; Acts 2:37-38, “**Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart,** and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” Now this WORD, this two-edged sword not only cuts to the heart, but it also condemns. Isa.55:11, “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” In other words, it will soften the heart or it will harden. The same WORD that pricked and cut their hearts is the same WORD that hardened their hearts in Acts 5:33, “When they heard that, **they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.**” We see the same thing in Acts 7:54 when Stephen was preaching, “When they heard these things, **they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.**” Charles Spurgeon says this about this sharp double edge sword, “The revelation of God given us in Holy Scripture is edge all over. It is alive in every part, and in every part keen to cut the conscience, and wound the heart. Depend upon it, there is not a superfluous verse in the Bible, nor a chapter that is useless. The Word of God is so sharp a thing, so full of cutting power, that you may be bleeding under its wounds before you have seriously suspected the possibility of such a thing. You cannot come near the gospel without its having a measure of influence over you; and, God blessing you, it may cut down and kill your sins when you have no idea that such a work is being done. Yes, when Christ comes, He comes not to send peace on the earth, but a sword; and that sword begins at home, in our own souls, killing, cutting, hacking, breaking in pieces. Blessed is that man who knows the Word of the Lord by its exceeding sharpness, for it kills nothing but that which ought to be killed. It quickens and gives new life to all that is of God; but the old depraved life, which ought to die, it hews in pieces, as Samuel destroyed Agag before the Lord.” A W Pink. “The writings of men may sometimes stir the emotions, search the conscience, and influence the human will, but in a manner and degree possessed by no other book the Bible convicts men of their guilt and lost estate. The Word of God is the Divine mirror, for in it man reads the secrets of his own guilty soul and sees the vileness of his own evil nature. In a way absolutely peculiar to themselves, the Scriptures discern the thoughts and intents of the heart and reveal to men the fact that they are lost sinners and in the presence of a Holy God.” As a matter of fact the Apostle Paul tells us in Eph.6:17 that, “...the sword of the Spirit, which is the

word of God:” When the Spirit of God quicken His word to a sinner, it is able to cut asunder the most hardened sinner and make him a new creature in Christ, this is the cutting power of God’s WORD. Yes, the Word of God is Absolute, Alive, Able and Acute, but fifthly:

V. The Word of God Accuses: (Word of God is Piercing) Again, Hebrews 4:12 says, *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* Fifthly, the Word of God is, “...PIERCING even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow...” This PIERCING WORD of God ACCUSES all the way down to the heart as it cuts down into the soul and spirit of man. It can cut into the hardest of hearts and it can find its way anywhere as it pierce, penetrates like an arrow which enters between the joint and marrow, yea it divides sharply asunder in that it reaches the most hidden and secret places of men and women. The Word of God is so sharp and piercing that it separates the precious from the vile, the wheat from the chaff and the sheep from the goats. The Greek word for piercing is *‘Diikneomai,’* (De-ek-nee-o-mae) which means to go through that is; to penetrate. It is a compound word made up of *‘Dia’* which means through and *‘Hikneoma’* which means to come. When combined it means to reach through or to pass through, that is; to penetrate into the inmost recesses of the soul and spirit and cuts through the joints and marrow. No doubt it is a Divine operation of the Spirit of God. Spurgeon says, *“As you have seen hanging up in the butcher’s shop the carcasses of animals cut right down in the center, so the Word of God is **“piercing to the dividing of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow.”** It opens a man to himself and makes him see himself. It divides asunder soul and spirit. Nothing else could do that, for the division is difficult. In a great many ways writers have tried to describe the difference between soul and spirit; but I question whether they have succeeded. No doubt it is a very admirable definition to say, “The soul is the life of the natural man, and the spirit the life of the regenerate or spiritual man.” But it is one thing to define and quite another thing to divide.”* This Living, sharp and powerful Word piercing both that immaterial part of man and the material part of man, that is; it penetrates the spirit and soul which is immaterial and the joints and marrow which is material part of man. In other words the WORD of GOD goes DEEP, DEEPER where no one or nothing else can penetrate, thus it is sharp, that is; the Word of God can cut though penetrate anything and everything that is in the soul, spirit and heart of man, nothing escapes God’s WORD! There is much here but we must press on, lastly:

VI. The Word of God is Active: (Word of God is a Discerner)

Sixthly, the Word of God is ACTIVE, *“...is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* Not only does it penetrate and pierce deep into the soul and spirit, but it is also a DISCERNER of the thoughts and intents of the heart! It will pierce and penetrate so deep that it will discern, yea discover what truly is in the hearts of men and women. The WORD of God is ACTIVE, it discerns and discovers what is in the heart of man, it is always working in the hearts of man. Hebrews 4:12 says, *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* In other words the WORD of God will REVEAL the thoughts and intents of the heart! It will expose all our secret thoughts, secret

sins, it will reveal the imagination and corruption of the heart! Yes, the WORD of God is active in discerning the thoughts and intents of the heart. Paul says this in Romans 2:14 & 15, *“For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew the work of the law written **in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.**”* The WORD of God is powerful and effective that cuts deep into the soul, spirit and heart of man and this is one of the reason why Satan viciously launches his greatest attacks against the WORD of God, to undermine it and discourage people from reading it, because he knows it’s POWER. This is why in the Parable of the Sower it says in Matt.13:19, *“When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and **catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.** This is he which received seed by the way side.”* Mark 4:15 puts it this way, *“And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.”* Luke 8:12 says it this way, *“Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.”* Satan doesn’t want God’s WORD to penetrate deep into a person’s hearts, because the WORD is EFFECTUAL and POWERFUL to the SAVING of that person. He snatches it away before it can be rooted in the heart. Yes, the WORD of God is a DISCERNER of the thoughts and intents of the heart. The Greek word of discerner is ‘**Kritikos**’ which basically means to judge. The WORD of GOD has POWER to DISCERN, that is to judge the thoughts and intents of your heart. This perfect discerner not only analyzes all the facts, motive and intentions, but makes no mistakes in it execution of judgment. Any and all deception in man’s heart are disclosed and brought to light by GOD’S WORD! One writer puts it this way: *“A surgeon exposes the operating field with a bright, powerful light to illuminate every dark crevice and then with a sharp knife is able to lance the abscess to remove the infected pocket or to excise the portion of the organ that is being ravaged by cancer. Such is the power and potential of the “scalpel” of the Word of God to expose and excise the sin in our innermost being.”* The Word of God is a discerner, a judge of the thoughts and intents of the heart. The thoughts represent the strong feelings, emotions, the passion, the will and the mind, it speaks of the inward reasoning that communicates the idea of pondering or thinking. Intentions speaks of what literally takes place in the heart and mind. You cannot really separate the thoughts and intents of the heart as they both refers to the reflection and actions that shapes our attitude or if you wish that which guides of actions. In simple terms getting to the heart of the matter and no pun intended. Have you ever seen someone in deep thought and asked them, what are you thinking? Or has anyone ever ask you a penny for your thought? This is how powerful the word of God is it gets down to depths of the heart and leaves us naked before God. The road to hell is paved with good intentions, that is; the thoughts and intents of the heart seeks to act in a certain way to accomplish or attain, that is; constantly saying, but really lying to itself, “One day I’ll get my heart right with God.” Knowing all along that it is not a true statement, but it eases the guilt in the mind and heart and so when we hear the word of God preached and our hearts are pricks we naturally fight it as God unravels and unwraps the counsels of our heart and mind. There is no place to hide where God not is, physically or spiritually! You cannot hide from God anywhere on this planet, go to any 4 corners of the earth and God is there. Spiritually, the immaterial part of man, the heart and

mind, that is; the soul and spirit the thoughts and intents of the mind, you cannot hide from God in here, God knows and sees all the way down to every little thoughts or secret in your mind or heart. Again, you cannot escape from God, you cannot run from God, you cannot hide from God, He knows your every action, your every excuse, your every thought, your every lie; your every sin, nothing escapes the all-seeing eye of God nothing escapes he all-knowing omniscience of God! Have you read how many times it says about Christ, "...and knowing their thoughts..." God will bring to light every hidden thing of darkness, nothing shall escape God, but the problem lies in the fact that we think we are smarter and wiser than God, not knowing that the whole times God sees and knows everything and sends the preacher to uncover your hearts with the WORD of GOD! He does this so that you can get your hearts right with Him.

Thus; Romans 2:1-6, *"Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. 2 But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. 3 And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? 4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? 5 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; 6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds."*

This is but the mercy and goodness of God to bring the gospel to your heart! Quit deceiving yourself, quit lying to yourself and throw down the arms of rebellion and takes sides with God against yourself! Matthew 10:28 says, *"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."* Man can destroy this body, but not the soul, like wise man can get to this body but not the soul, but the WORD of God does what no man can do: *"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, **piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**"* Don't forget that Christ also said in in Matthew 12:36, *"But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."* The WORD of God reveals all that a person is and does as it discern every thought and word and action of every person. Jer. 23:29 says, *"Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?"* Yes the WORD of God is POWERFUL and SHARP as it goes down into the soul and spirit, the thoughts and intents of the heart, like a hammer crushes and breaks every excuse given why the sinner should not repent and believe the GOSPEL! Therefore, there is no excuse no to come to Christ, so I compel you this morning: CONSIDER YOUR WAYS and come to Christ in repentance to God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! You do know that one day everything; yes everything, every idle word, every thought, every lie, every sin, everything will be brought to light on judgment day. This is why God calls preachers to preach the gospel to warn you that everything you have done, every sin all things will one day be brought into account before a HOLY GOD! God uses the instrumentality of man, that is; preachers and HIS WORD gets down into your heart and soul to warn of the wrath to come!

I'll end with this:

Rev.20:11-15, *“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”* I believe that the BOOKS that are open are the 66 books you hold in hands at this very moment, the Bible made up of 66 books, 39 in the OT and 27 in NT, yes this same WORD that gets down into the depths of your heart and soul will also be your judge:

Hebrews 4:12 & 13, *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”*

Oh my dear ones again, I plead with you: CONSIDER YOUR WAYS and come to Christ in repentance to God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Let's pray