

Hebrews 4:12-16: The Living & Powerful Word of God.

I. 12-13: The Word.

The Word that was preached to the Israelites in the wilderness is living, powerful and sharper than a double edged sword, which was the mightiest war weapon in ancient days. Now we have nuclear war heads and the mightiest weapons around the world.

“God’s Word...lays open our heart and discerns our spiritual health...like a surgeon’s blade cutting away what needs to be cut and keeping what needs to be kept.”

Brain surgery ranges from \$50,000-\$150,000 or more.

Heart bypass surgery costs about \$70,000-\$200,000 or more, and heart valve replacement surgery typically costs \$80,000-\$200,000 or more. According to the United Network for Organ Sharing , the total cost of a heart transplant can reach almost \$800,000 or more.

God’s Word performs life transforming surgery on us for free.

***2Timothy 3:16-17** - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

i. The Word of God heals.

***Psalm 107:20** - He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.*

ii. God’s Word cleans us.

***Psalm 119:9** - How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.*

iii. God’s Word is a counselor.

***Psalm 119:24** - Your testimonies also are my delight and my counselors.*

iv. The Word of God has power and authority against demonic powers.

***Ephesians 6:17** - And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*

v. God’s Word sets us apart.

***John 17:17** - “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.*

vi. Hearing God’s Word builds faith

***Romans 10:17** - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

John 6:68 - *But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. "Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

"A sword with two edges has no blunt side: it cuts both this way and that. 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 which is useless." Charles Spurgeon.

II. 14-16: Our Great High Priest.

No other **Priest was great, High and passed through the heavens, sympathetic, full of mercy and grace.**

Much as the OT priests had access to God, they were human, thus, fellow sinners with limited abilities. They had to first receive from God to give to the people.

Psalms 86:15 - *But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.*

Mark 6:34 - *And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.*

James 5:10-11 - *My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.*

God provides **help** in our time of need. No request is too small and he won't turn away anyone.

Philippians 4:6-7 – *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*