

**What is
"the Word of God?"**

1. What is the Word of God?

Most Christians believe that the biblical text is "inspired."

Many believe that the scriptures are "the word of God."

But what exactly does that mean?

Lk 5:1 – Jesus speaking "the word of God" by the lake

Acts 18:11 – Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half teaching them "the word of God."

I would like to know what Paul was teaching them over those 18 mos.

When in Paul's letters we hear
"the word of God" – Eph 6:17

What does that mean?

Are we talking about the OT?

There is no NT yet.

1 John 2:14 -

"I write to you, young men,
because you are strong, and
word of God lives in you."

Does he mean the OT here?

Heb 4:12 – "the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword..."

Is the writer talking about the OT?

The NT did not exist yet.

The writer of *Hebrews* says that the "old" covenant is obsolete. 8:13

1 Kings 13:1

"By the word of the Lord a man of God came from Judah to Bethel."

What does that mean?

Did he read something in Moses...?

1 Kings 13:21

"You have defied
the word of the Lord and have not
kept the command the Lord your
God gave you."

What is "the word of God?"

the word of God

ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ

Let me give you some other NT
texts that use this phrase...let's see
if you can get it.

Luke 4:32

They were amazed at **His teaching**
for his message ὁ λόγος αὐτοῦ
had authority."

Acts 11:22

When **news** [ὁ λόγος] that many
Gentiles had been saved in Antioch
reached the church in Jerusalem...

What is "the word of God?"

What is the logos of God?

We have all been taught that
the Bible is **the word of God**.

I have just given you evidence from the Greek NT and the LXX that the term logos of God means something more than the Bible.

When the old prophet in 1 Kings 13 says "you have defied the word of the Lord!" to the younger prophet... what was he talking about?

Strong's Concordance

logos: a word (as embodying an idea),
a statement, a speech

Original Word: λόγος, ου, ό

Definition: a word (as embodying an idea),
a statement, a speech

Usage: a word, speech, divine utterance, analogy.

What is **the word of God**?

What does it mean?

It's a message from God.

Be my Valentine!

What does that mean?

Do we need to break down the
individual words?

"Be" – a verb that speaks of a state

"my" – first person possessive noun

"valentine" – the historic person

It's a message.

The individual "words" are the symbols that bring the message.

Do you get it?

"the word of God" is a message.

It's NOT the "words" on the page.

[15min]

Think of a water hose.

The hose has one function.



To deliver water to you.

Is the pipe water? No.

The hose is the conduit that brings
the water.

The Bible is the hose.

The message of God is the water.

The Bible is the conduit that brings
you the message....
the word of God.

We have seen over and over in the
passages that we have exegeted...
There is ALWAYS more to the
story...more in the text than the
actual words can convey.

Questioning the text helps you
grasp the message of God in your
mind, to your soul
and to your heart.

So when Jesus tells His disciples in *Luke 14:26*,

“If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters even their own life - such a person cannot be my disciple.”

Do we take this literally?

What is His message?

[18min]

Ok...Let's move on...

It is about to get a bit complex.



John 1:1 the text reads,
"In the beginning was the Word
[ὁ λόγος]. And [ὁ λόγος] was
with God... [ὁ λόγος] was God."

What does this mean?

If you want to say that Jesus
embodied the message of God to
the world...I would agree.

Your training with exegesis should have already illustrated to you that the biblical text cannot ALWAYS be read literally.

Logos is an interesting term AND John is using it in a very specific fashion.

WE WILL CONTINUE THIS LECTURE ON WEDNESDAY.

QUESTIONS?