

# THE POWER OF MEMORIZATION

Text: Psalm 119:11

## Introduction:

1. God expects His people to hide His word in their hearts.
2. The word for 'hide' means, "To store up; to treasure; to hoard; to protect."
3. The way to store up God's word in one's heart is by memorizing it.
4. Many claim that they do not have the ability to memorize Scripture.
5. However, God created our minds with the ability to remember a great number of things for a long period of time.
  - a. Environmental memory
  - b. Short-term memory
  - c. Long-term memory
    - i. Process memory
    - ii. Declarative memory
    - iii. Foundational memory (association)
6. Often, what we call a poor memory is actually a lack of understanding of the function of memory.
7. Storing Scripture in one's long-term memory is possible if one understands the process of memorization and exercises the brain accordingly.
8. However, before engaging in the process, one must understand the purpose.
  - I. Obedience (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
    - A. God commands His people to keep His word in their hearts.
    - B. We take for granted that everyone can have a copy of the Bible with them at all times – in print or on their phones.
      1. But, it was not always so.
      2. And, this does not fulfill the command of God.
    - C. His word is to be in our hearts, not our hands!
  - II. Preparation (Matthew 13:52)
    - A. By memorizing God's word, one prepares himself for whatever he may face in life.
    - B. His mind becomes a storehouse of treasures both old and new.
  - III. Protection (Psalm 119:11; 37:31; Matt. 4:1-11)
    - A. The memorizing of God's word helps to protect one from sin.
    - B. He is able to recognize temptation to evil.
    - C. He is able answer the temptation with Truth.
    - D. He is able to find the way of escape (cf. 1 Cor. 10:13).
  - IV. Defense (1 Peter 3:15)
    - A. By memorizing God's word, one is ready to give a defense of Truth when challenged.
    - B. The "sword of the Spirit" cannot be used if it is not carried into battle!

- V. Education (Judges 2:10; Deut. 6:7)
- A. By memorizing Scripture, one is able to teach it to others.
  - B. The failure of Israel was a failure of learning and teaching the truth.
- VI. Prosperity (Psalm 1; Joshua 1:8)
- A. Memorizing God's word enables one to prosper in his life.
  - B. Spiritual prosperity is of greater value than material wealth.
- VII. Maturity (Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:16)
- A. Memorizing Scripture results in the renewing of one's mind, leading to a transformation in life.
  - B. The mature Christian will have the word of Christ dwelling in him richly – abundantly, copiously.

Conclusion:

1. We can see the importance of memorizing and meditating upon the Word of God.
2. Will we commit ourselves to doing it?