

Growing Pains

Introduction: In this verse Paul explains the divine resource we have in times of suffering and persecution. - God's Word Within Us -v13.

I) They appreciated the Word.

A) The way a Christian treats the Bible shows how he regards Jesus Christ -*John 1:1, 14; Matthew 4:4; Psalm 119:105; Jn. 8:12, Jn. 14:6; Jn. 17:17.*

B) Personal prejudice.

C) Would you rather have your Bible than food? -*Job 23:12; Matt. 4:4; Heb. 5:11-14; Ps. 119:103*

D) Would you rather have God's Word than money? -*Psalm 119:14, 72, 127, 162.*

E) Would you rather have God's Word than sleep? -*Psalm 119:148.*

II) They appropriated the Word.

A). Jesus repeatedly warned about the wrong kind of hearing -*Matt 13:9.*

B) He gave another warning -*Mark 4:24.*

C) Our Lord's third warning "Take heed how you hear." -*2 Timothy 4:3; Hebrews 5:11; Amos 8:11.*

D) How do we appropriate the Word?

III) They applied the Word.

A) The Word of God has in its power to accomplish the will of God -*Luke 13:7; Mark 3:1-5.*

Conclusion: The Word of God within us is a great source of power in times of testing and suffering. If we appreciate the Word (the heart), appropriate the Word (the will), then the whole person will be controlled by God's Word and He will give us the victory.