

Special Event
West Houston Bible Church
20th Anniversary — God Provides
April 7, 2024

Dean Bible Ministries
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GOD PROVIDES

Gen. 22:14, “And Abraham called the name of the place, The–LORD–Will–Provide; as it is said to this day, ‘In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.’ ”

The Values of West Houston Bible Church

- 1. We value above all things the sufficiency of God and His Word.**
- 2. We value the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross in our place, which provides for us a salvation by grace through faith in His work on the Cross apart from anything done by us to merit that salvation.**
- 3. We value a grace-based spiritual life based on the study, understanding, and application of God's Word in every area of our lives: our thoughts, conversation, lifestyle, and actions.**

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We value the sufficiency of God's revelation of Himself.

We cannot separate the knowledge of God from the knowledge of His Word, for His Word teaches us about all that God is. And we cannot truly know Him apart from His revelation of Himself, which in turn enables us to understand the issues and challenges of life in all areas of human intellectual activity.

Psa. 138:2, “I will worship toward Your holy temple, and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.”

a. God has revealed Himself to us in His Word.

Isa. 46:9, “Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,”

1 Kings 8:23, “and he said: ‘LORD God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts.’ ”

1 Chron. 17:20, “O LORD, there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.”

**Psa. 71:19, “Also Your righteousness, O God, is very high,
You who have done great things; O God, who is like You?”**

**Psa. 89:8, “O LORD God of hosts, Who is mighty like You,
O LORD? Your faithfulness also surrounds You.”**

**Mic. 7:18, “Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and
passing over the transgression of the remnant of His
heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He
delights in mercy.”**

Isa. 48:13, “Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand has stretched out the heavens; When I call to them, they stand up together. We should be thankful for God’s provision of His Word.”

But how do we know of God's character?

- 1. We know and we can know because God has revealed Himself to us.**
- 2. This is one reason God can say that He elevates His Word above His name.**
- 3. Therefore we should be thankful God has revealed Himself to us.**

Isa. 55:8, “ ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD.

Isa. 55:9, “ ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.’ ”

b. God's Word should be interpreted on the basis of the plain meaning of language.

1. Clear understanding of God's Word which should be interpreted on the basis of a consistent, plain understanding of the Scripture. This results in a dispensational understanding of God's plan for the Ages, the distinction between God's plan for Israel and God's plan for the Church, a pre-Tribulation Rapture, the rewards from the Judgment Seat of Christ as motivation for our present life.

This is why we must spend time investigating the words, the grammar, and the language of Scripture.

We must understand the context in which Scripture was written to understand it.

2. Understanding God's plan of the Ages through the application of a consistent literal interpretation, which teaches us that God administers His oversight of human history through successive administrations in human history called dispensations.

a) Distinction between Israel and the Church.

b) A focus on the importance of the role of the Church Age and the spiritual life of the Church Age believer.

c) A realization that Christ could return for us at any moment in the Rapture of the Church.

3. We must constantly be encouraged and reminded to:

- **Read God's Word daily.**
- **Think about what we have read.**
- **Memorize Scripture.**
- **Talk about these things with our parents, children, and friends.**

Deut. 6:6, “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

Deut. 6:7, “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Deut. 6:8, “You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

Deut. 6:9, “You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

c. The sufficiency of God's revelation to us for everything we face in life.

The basic problem we face is the corruption of our own sin nature:

- Our finite minds and intellectual abilities are corrupted by sin, abnormal mentality.**
- Our emotions are corrupted by sin, abnormal emotions.**
- Our standards are corrupted by sin and oriented toward self-absorption, we have abnormal standards.**
- Our volition is corrupted by sin and oriented toward rebellion.**

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be pressed into the mold of the thinking, the values, the lifestyles of the human, godless culture, but be transformed by the renewing of your thinking, that you may demonstrate that the will of God is good, acceptable, and sufficient.”

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The emphasis is

- a. On the motivation behind the Cross: God's love, mercy, and grace.**
- b. Thus we value the good news of a consistent grace-based salvation.**

a. We must recognize the sufficiency of Christ's death for us.

John 19:30, "So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit."

a. We must recognize the sufficiency of Christ's death for us.

2 Pet. 1:2, “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,

2 Pet. 1:3, “as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

2 Pet. 1:4, “by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

b. That salvation is by faith alone in Christ alone.

**Eph. 2:8, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,
Eph. 2:9, “not of works, lest anyone should boast.”**

John 3:18, “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

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a. At the instant of our salvation we are given a new life in Christ. It is then our responsibility to grow spiritually through the study, understanding, and application of God's Word.

2 Pet. 3:18, “but grow by means of the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Understanding God's grace, His unmerited favor which cannot be earned.

Deut. 5:10, “but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.” (cr., Ex. 20:6)

John 14:15, “ ‘If you love Me, keep My commandments.’ ”

John 14:24, “He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.”

Ex. 33:17, “So the LORD said to Moses, ‘I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name.’ ”

Ex. 34:9, “Then he said, ‘If now I have found grace in Your sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray, go among us, even though we are a stiff-necked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Your inheritance.’ ”

Psa. 84:11, “For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.”

b. The overall view of the life after salvation is that we are to live, think, talk, and act in a way that reflects our new reality and identity in Christ.

We are to walk worthy of that new identity, we are not to live, think, talk, or act like the unbelieving world.

We are to walk in the light as Christ is in the light.

We will fail and sin innumerable times, but we are to admit our sins to God and He will immediately forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We continue to press on

Php. 3:12, “Not that I have already attained, or am already complete; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.”