

A photograph of a stone archway in a ruined building. The archway is made of light-colored stone blocks and is set within a larger wall of similar stone. The ground in the foreground is covered in rubble, including broken stones and wooden planks. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day. The text "REBUILDING the GATES" is overlaid on the image in a large, black, serif font. "REBUILDING" and "GATES" are in all caps, while "the" is in lowercase and smaller. The text is centered horizontally and spans across the middle of the image.

REBUILDING
the
GATES

Rebuilding the Gates

- Chapter One: Evidence of God at work in the heart.
- Chapter Two: Evidence of Gods hand upon our lives.
- Chapter Three: Rebuilding the Gates:
 - i. The Sheep Gate - Christ the Shepherd, we are the sheep of His pasture.
 - ii. The Fish Gate - A call to evangelism as a normal part of the Christian life.
 - iii. The Horse Gate - Spiritual warfare conference.



The Water Gate speaks of knowing the Word of God.

Q: Is the Holy Spirit making the Word of God alive to us personally, allowing cleansing, encouragement and direction to take place in our life?

The Water Gate

1 Pet 1:22 - 25

22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, 24 because

“All flesh is as grass,
And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.

The grass withers,
And its flower falls away,

25 But the word of the LORD endures forever.”

Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

The Water Gate

Neh 8:1 - 12

1 Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel. 2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. 3 Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

The Water Gate

Neh 8:1 - 12

4 So Ezra the scribe stood on a platform of wood which they had made for the purpose; and beside him, at his right hand, stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Urijah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah; and at his left hand Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam. 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God.

The Water Gate

The background image shows a stone archway in a ruined building. The arch is made of large, rectangular stone blocks. The ground in the foreground is covered in rubble and debris, including broken stone blocks and wooden planks. The overall scene is one of destruction and decay.

Neh 8:1 - 12

Then all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

7 Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law; and the people stood in their place. 8 So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading.

The Water Gate

Neh 8:1 - 12

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep." For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law.

10 Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

The Water Gate

The image shows a large, ancient stone archway, known as the Water Gate, set into a thick wall of light-colored stone blocks. The arch is dark and appears to be an entrance. In the foreground, there is a large pile of rubble, including broken stone blocks and debris, suggesting a site of archaeological excavation or destruction. The overall scene is in a muted, sepia-toned color palette.

Neh 8:1 - 12

11 So the Levites quieted all the people, saying, "Be still, for the day is holy; do not be grieved." 12 And all the people went their way to eat and drink, to send portions and rejoice greatly, because they understood the words that were declared to them.

The Water Gate

The image shows a large, arched stone gateway, known as the Water Gate, set within a thick, weathered stone wall. The archway is dark and appears to be an entrance. The surrounding walls are made of large, rectangular stone blocks. In the foreground, there is a significant amount of rubble and debris, including broken stones and wooden beams, suggesting a state of ruin or ongoing archaeological work. A simple wooden railing is visible in front of the archway. The overall scene is one of historical significance and decay.

- Appeasement
- Expiation
- Redemption
- Remission
- Reconciliation
- Justification
- Propitiation

America's View of God's Word

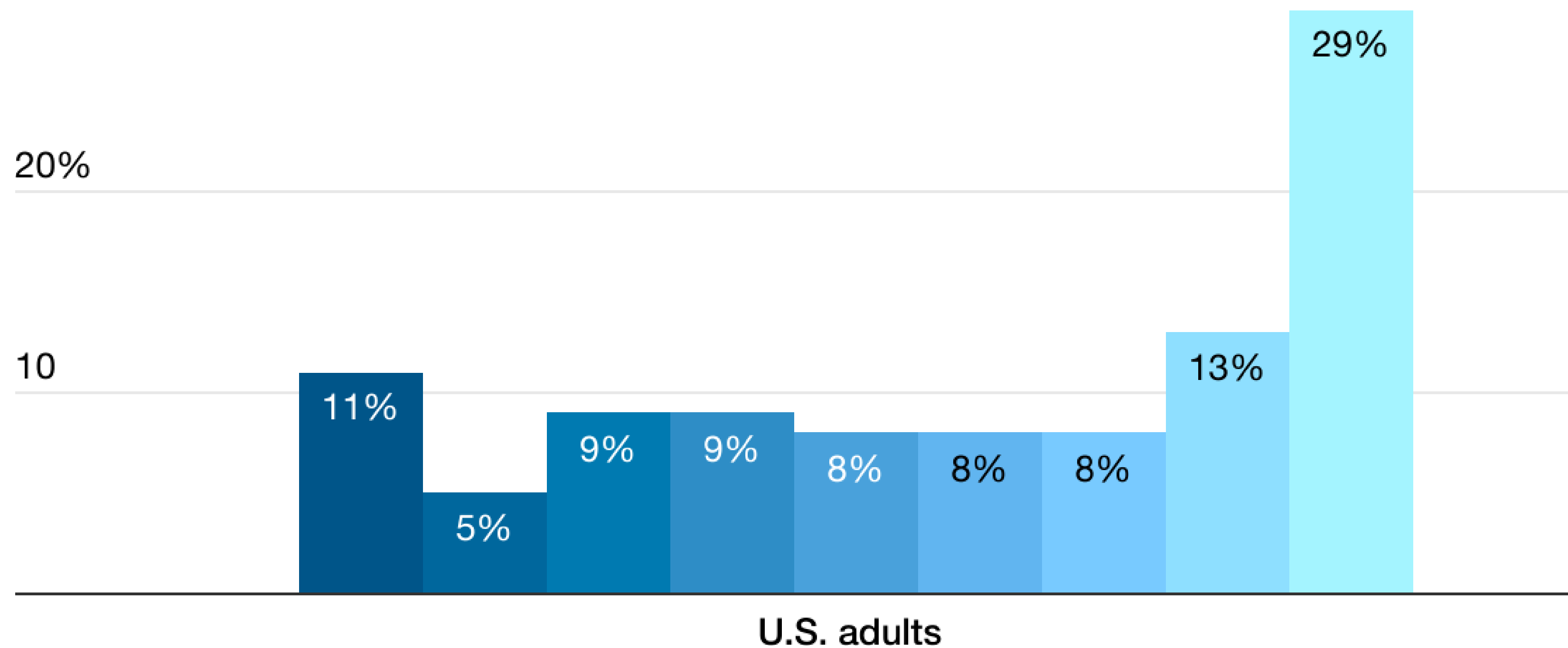
Barna Research Group has estimated that only 29% of Americans are Bible Users, defined as people who only use their Bible on their own 3 times a year. Meaning - 71% of America will NEVER open a bible on their own.

BIBLE USE FREQUENCY AMONG U.S. ADULTS – 2021

Barna

How often do you use the Bible on your own?

- Daily (7 days a week)
- Four+ (4-6) times a week
- Several (2-3) times a week
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Three or four times a year
- Once or twice a year
- Less than once a year
- Never



God's Perspective of His Word

God's Word is as creative and as powerful as it was when He spoke in the beginning and created all that is by the power of His Word.

God's Word wields the same power, force and authority as God Himself, for God is in His Word.

We must give God's Word the same place we would give God if we could see Him physically in our midst.

Those early believers in the book of Acts gave God's Word its rightful place when they said, 'It is not right that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables.'

T.L. Osborn 'In His Name'

God's Perspective of His Word

Jer 1:7 - 12

7 But the LORD said to me,
“Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’
Because everywhere I send you, you shall go,
And all that I command you, you shall speak.

8 “Do not be afraid of them,
For I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD.

9 Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the
LORD said to me,

God's Perspective of His Word

Jer 1:7 - 12

“Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

10 “See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms,

To pluck up and to break down,

To destroy and to overthrow,

To build and to plant.”

11 The word of the LORD came to me saying, “What do you see, Jeremiah?” And I

said, “I see a rod of an almond tree.” 12 Then the LORD said to me, “You have

seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”

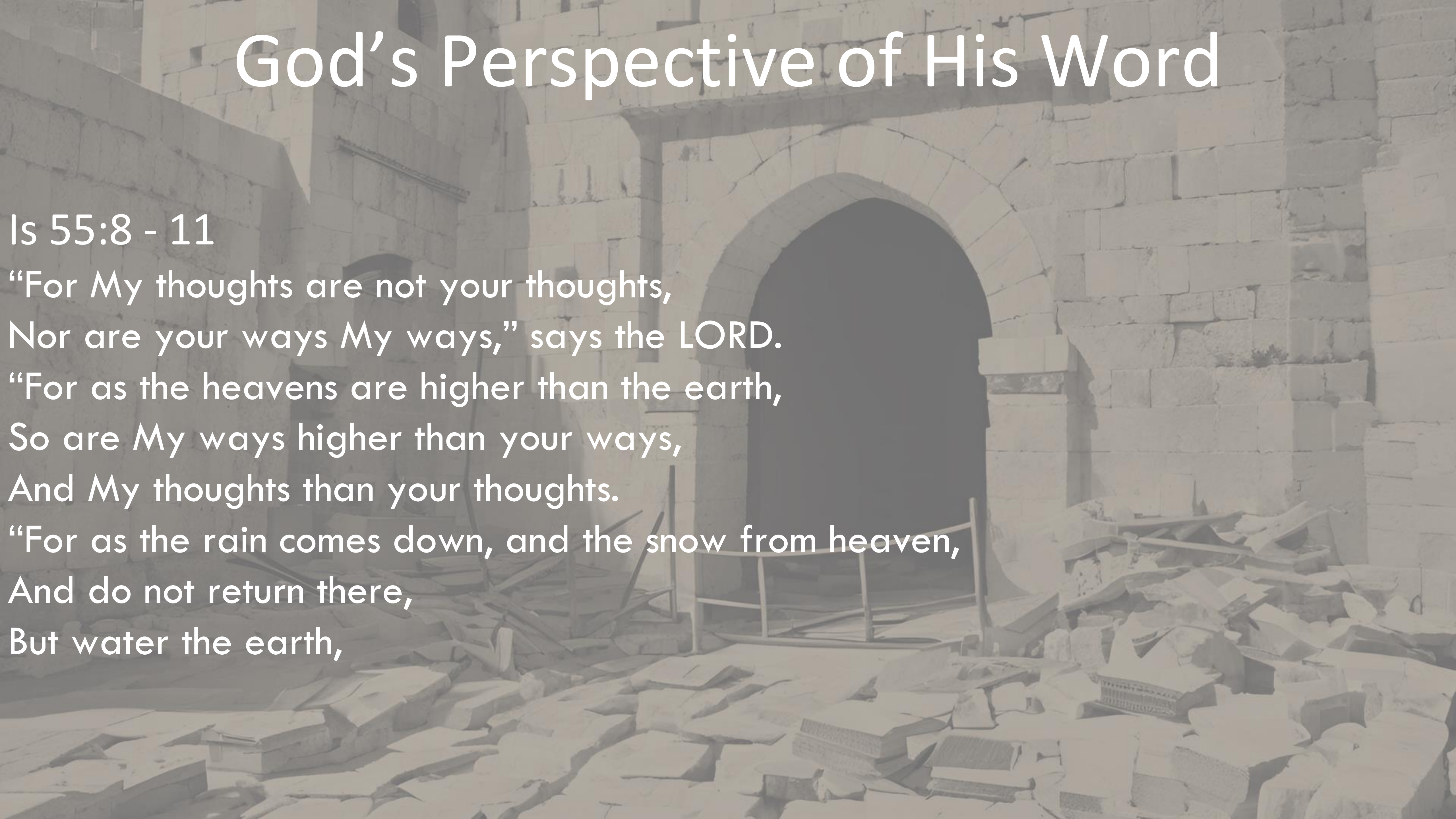
God's Perspective of His Word

Is 55:8 - 11

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD.

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts.

“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there,
But water the earth,



God's Perspective of His Word

Is 55:8 - 11

And make it bring forth and bud,
That it may give seed to the sower
And bread to the eater,
So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

God's Perspective of His Word

A photograph of a stone archway in a ruined building, with rubble on the ground and a wooden railing in the foreground. The image is in a muted, sepia tone. The archway is the central focus, leading into a dark interior. The surrounding walls are made of large, rectangular stone blocks, many of which are cracked and crumbling. In the foreground, there is a large pile of broken stones and debris. A simple wooden railing with vertical posts and a curved top rail is positioned in front of the archway. The overall scene conveys a sense of ancient history and the passage of time.

Is 40:8

‘The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God endures forever.’

Psalm 18:30

‘As for God, His way is perfect
The Lord's Word is flawless;
He shields all who take refuge in Him.’

God's Perspective of His Word

Ps 119:105, 'Thy WORD is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.'

Ps 119:130, 'The unfolding of Your WORDS gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.'

Matt 4:4, 'It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every WORD that comes from the mouth of God.'

God's Perspective of His Word

- The Lord watches over His Word.
- The Lord prospers His Word.
- The Lord puts HIMSELF into His Word.
- The Lord protects through His Word.
- The Lord has given HIS word to us for everything we could ever need... BECAUSE GOD HIMSELF IS IN HIS WORD!

God's Became His Word

John 1:1 - 2; 14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Logos : Rhema

A photograph of a stone archway in a ruined building, with rubble on the ground. The archway is made of light-colored stone blocks and is set within a larger stone wall. The ground in the foreground is covered with a large pile of broken stone blocks and debris. The overall scene is one of destruction and decay.

Logos:

- The Word of God, spoken by a living voice.
- A word, uttered by a living voice, what someone has said.
- The sayings of God
- The moral precepts given by God
- Old Testament prophecy given by the prophets
- Doctrine; a teaching.

Logos : Rhema

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Rhema:

- The words being uttered by the living voice, thing spoken, word.
- Any sound produced by the voice and having definite meaning
 - Of speech, discourse
 - An utterance

Logos : Rhema

"Jesus is the living Logos (John 1:1), the Bible is the written logos (Heb. 4:12), and the Holy Spirit utters the spoken logos (1 Cor. 2:13). The meaning of rhema in distinction to logos is illustrated in Ephesians 6:17, where the reference is not to the Scriptures as a whole, but to that portion which the believer wields as a sword in the time of need."

Jack Hayford

Logos : Rhema

“A rhema is an inspired Word birthed within your own spirit, a whisper from the Holy Spirit like the still, small voice that spoke to Elijah in the cave. It is a divinely inspired impression upon your soul, a flash of thought or a creative idea from God. It is conceived in your spirit, but birthed into your natural understanding by divine illumination. A true rhema carries with it a deep inner assurance and witness of the Spirit.”

Dr. Bill Hamon

Logos : Rhema

John 17:6 - 8

6 “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and *they have kept Your word*. 7 Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. 8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

- ‘they have kept thy word’ (*logos*)
- ‘I have given them the words (*rhema*) which you gavest me.’
- ‘They have received them’ (*lambano*)

Logos : Rhema

- The Rhema Word imparts life.

Matt 4:4

But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (rhema) that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ”

Logos : Rhema

- The Rhema Word helps us to co-labor with Him.

Luk 1:37 - 38

“For with God nothing (**ou par rhema**) will be impossible.” Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word (**rhema**).” And the angel departed from her.

Logos : Rhema

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- The Rhema Word imparts faith

Rom 10:17

“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing comes by the Word (**rhema**) of God.”

Logos : Rhema

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- The Rhema Word is our weapon.

Eph 6:17

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word (rhema) of God...”

Logos : Rhema

Heb 4:12

For the word (**logos**) of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Logos : Rhema

Origin:
'For the word (logos) *OF GOD*'



Logos : Rhema

A photograph of a stone archway in a ruined building, with rubble on the ground. The archway is made of light-colored stone blocks and is set within a larger stone wall. The ground in the foreground is covered in a large pile of broken stone blocks and debris. The overall scene is one of destruction and decay.

Origin:

‘For the word (logos) *OF GOD*’

Properties:

‘For the word of God is *LIVING AND POWERFUL*’

Logos : Rhema

Origin:

‘For the word (logos) *OF GOD*’

Properties:

‘For the word of God is *LIVING AND POWERFUL*’

Effects:

‘piercing even to the *DIVISION* of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a *DISCERNER* of the thoughts and intents of the heart.’

My Approach to Gods Word

1. Revere the Word

Is 66:1 - 2

1 Thus says the LORD:

“Heaven is My throne,
And earth is My footstool.

Where is the house that you will build Me?

And where is the place of My rest?

For all those things My hand has made,
And all those things exist,”

Says the LORD.

“But on this one will I look:

On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit,
And who trembles at My word.

My Approach to Gods Word

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2. Feed on the Word

- Recall, Understanding and Health.
- Physical versus Spiritual Hunger.
- The Word is the builder.

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REBUILDING
the
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