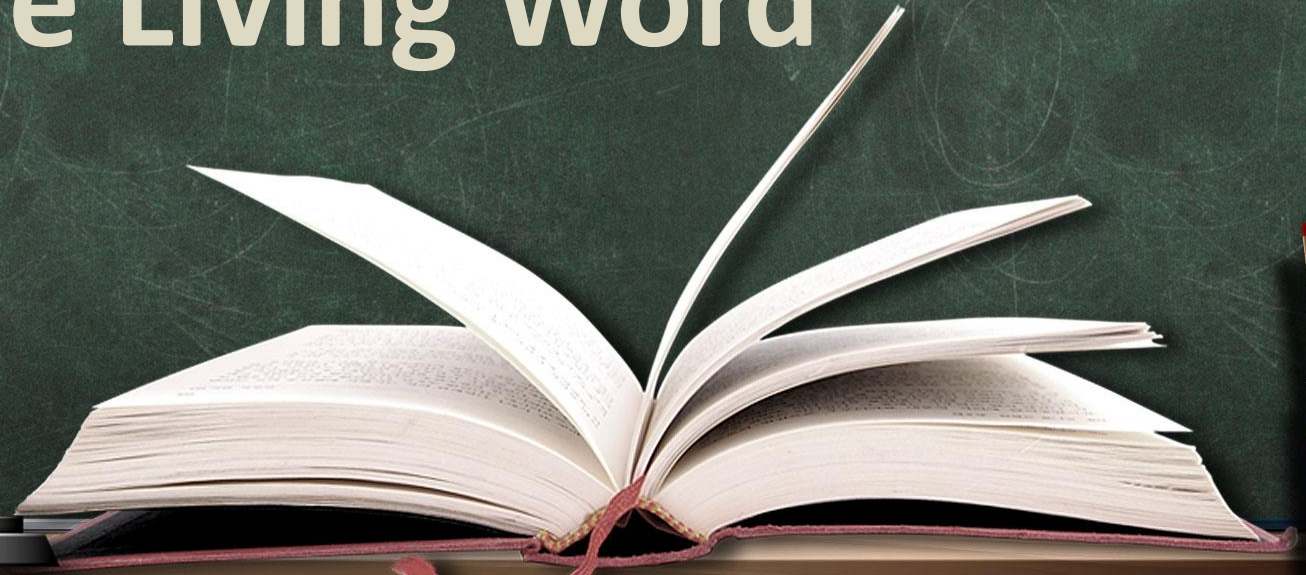


# The Living Word

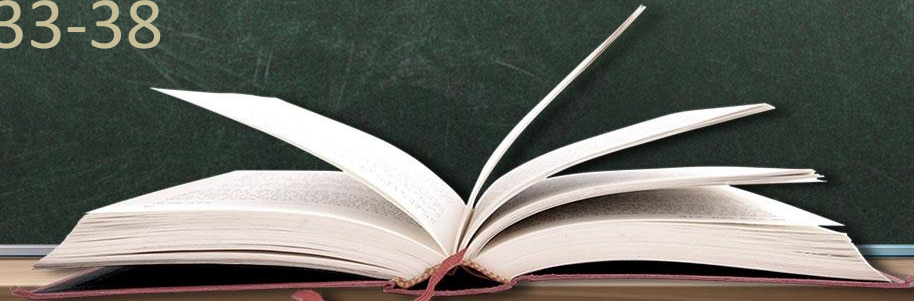


# Connection between God and His Word

- What do we mean by the phrase, “The Word of God?”
  - John 1:1-5
  - John 1:14
  - Revelation 19:11-14

## Following the Living Word

- Mark 8:33-38



# The Transfiguration - Mark 9:1-13

- Theophany, or appearance of God
- The appearance of two other figures with Jesus:
  - Moses and Elijah.
- Moses the Law-giver and Elijah the Prophet are representative of the common designation of the Hebrew Scriptures, the Law and the Prophets.
- ***Matthew 5:17*** *"Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. NLT*

Pastor and author Brian Zahnd - Sinners in the Hands of a Loving God, chapter 3, “Jesus Is What God Has to Say.”

- “The Bible is the word of God in a secondary sense, faithfully pointing us to the perfect Word of God, the Word made flesh.”
- ***John 1:17-18*** *For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. But the one and only Son is himself God and is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us. NLT*
- “God couldn’t say all he wanted to say in the form of a book, so he said it in the form of a human life. Jesus is what God has to say!”

## Peter in US!

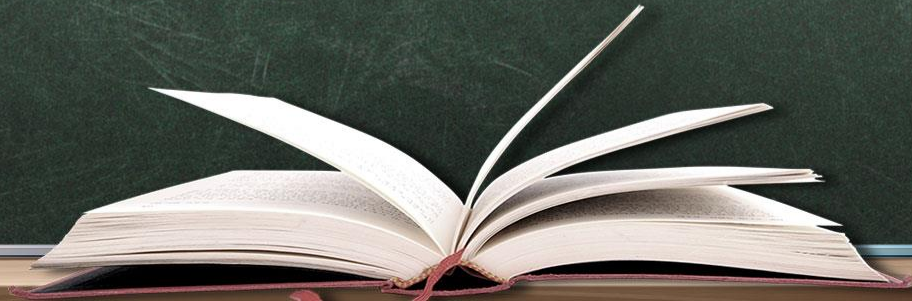
- **Initially Peter misunderstood what the presence of Moses and Elijah meant.**
  - Build 3 Memorial Structures.
  - Treating Moses, Elijah and Jesus as equals!
  - Flat reading of the Bible; it all carries equal weight.
- **Mark 9:6-8** “He said this because he didn't really know what else to say, for they were all terrified. 7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my dearly loved Son. Listen to him.” 8 Suddenly, when they looked around, Moses and Elijah were gone, and only Jesus was with them.

“The Law and the Prophets were the lesser lights in the pre-Christ night sky. They were the moon and the stars. They were sent by God, but they were not the fullness of divine light.”

“The moon and stars recede from view because the sun has risen. And sure enough, when Peter, James, and John looked around after the voice from heaven had spoken, they saw only Jesus.” Brain Zahnd

## The Letter of the Law – The Spirit of Jesus

- Matthew 5:38-42



Jesus is not just an echo of Moses. Jesus is taking the revelation of God's nature and God's will far beyond where the Torah ever could. Simply put, a Christian can't cite Moses to silence Jesus.

***“No! Jesus is my beloved Son. Listen to him!”***

The Law - Adultery, rebellious children and other sinners to be stoned!

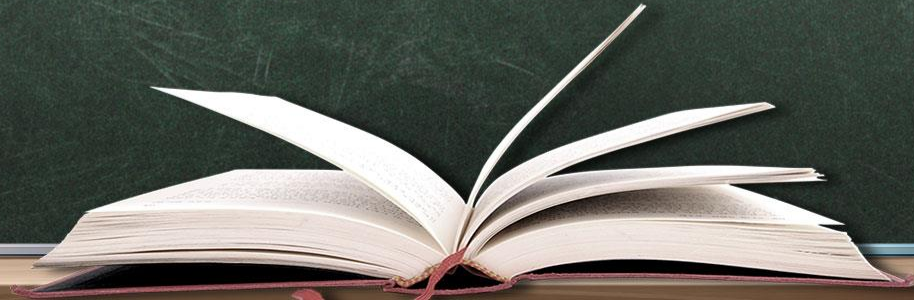
- John 8:4-5
- The true heart of God leans toward mercy and grace, not retributive justice.
- Can we see that Jesus' reading of the Law and the Prophets often holds up a mirror to our deeply violent human tendencies toward law and justice.

**Elijah called down fire from heaven to burn up his enemies.**  
(2 Kings 1:9-12) But God says to us, **“Listen to Jesus!”**

– Matthew 5:44

– Luke 9:51-56

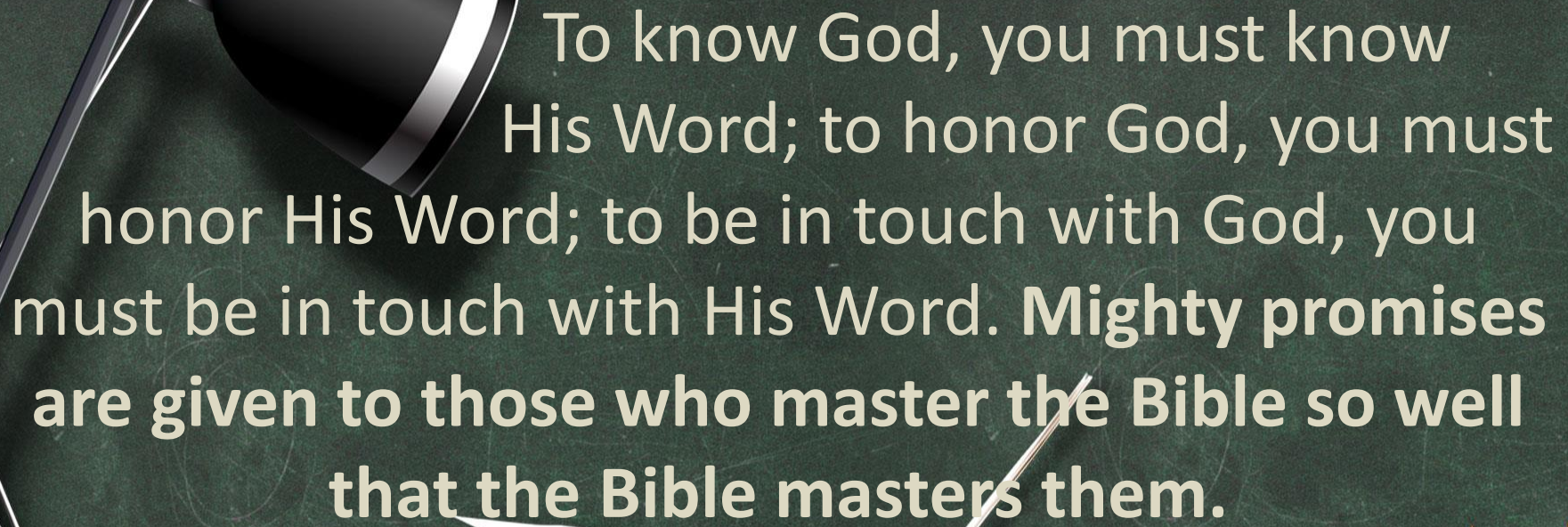
– **Luke 9:55-56** But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. 56 For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them." And they went to another village. NKJV





- When we open our eyes after the revelation, we see only Jesus. Today, Moses and Elijah—the Law and the Prophets—do one thing: they point us to Jesus.
- The Bible is the written word of God that bears witness to the living Word of God. God did not become a book, but God did become a human being.
- *“You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”*  
(John 5:39)





To know God, you must know  
His Word; to honor God, you must  
honor His Word; to be in touch with God, you  
must be in touch with His Word. **Mighty promises  
are given to those who master the Bible so well  
that the Bible masters them.**