

Loving God and Protecting His Word!

KJV 1 John 5:2 **By this** we know that we love the children of God, **when** we love God, and keep his commandments.

We can't properly love other believers if we don't know how to love God properly; and we love God by **keeping** His Word!

The word “**keep**” here means to guard, protect and attend to carefully!

- Anything guarded is considered **valuable**!
- Anything guarded is to be **kept in its current state** or it loses its value!

Anything that needs **constant careful attention** is precious, sensitive and priceless.

Anything priceless is a target for thieves!

Matt 4:4 **Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**

KJV Job 23:12 **Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.**

Job valued God's Word more than what he called **his necessary food**!

Not snacks or treats; but what was necessary to sustain his life—Job understood it was literally The Word of God that was keeping him alive!

This is why we **must guard** The Word! Like our refrigerator guards and protects our necessary food—keeping it fresh and nutritional!

We protect and preserve The Word of God by placing it in our hearts!

The KJ bible uses words like bosom to describe the heart and the inner most part of us!

KJG Luke 16:22 **And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;**

At that time people carried everything valuable their handkerchiefs, jewels, purses, food etc. in their bosom (the area close to their heart),.

KJV John 1:18 **No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.**

KJV Psalm 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Remember God's Word and His love are synonymous, the same thing!

❖ **Hiding, guarding and protecting God's Word is hiding, guarding and protecting His Love for us and all that Gods love.**

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The enemy is after The Word/Love of God that's in our hearts!

In the parable of **The Sower** Jesus makes some serious statements we can't ignore.

ESV Matthew 13:15 For this people's heart has grown dull, calloused, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

Jesus says **the problem is not with The Word, the problem is the hearts of the people!**

KJV Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Guard your heart with all diligence (careful attention) because everything our life produces comes from our heart!

The Serpent Satan, the devil was able to steal The Word from Eve because in her heart she wanted to be more than God created her to be!

He was able to steal The Word from Adam because in his heart he wanted to please Eve more than God!

ESV Matthew 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart.

The Serpent, Satan the Devil can only steal a Word from God we do not understand!

To understand means to "*grasp the main idea*" and make it a part of all the other ideas we have.

In other words The Word is not to stand alone in our hearts apart from how we think about marriage, family, business, politics or anything else.

It is supposed to blend with our ideas about everything else and change our thinking and doing!

If we don't let The Word do that we don't understand its main purpose and the devil can and will easily steal it from us! Because it's not really in our hearts it's just on our minds occasionally!

ESV Matthew 13:20-21 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.

The world Christian **cannot** protect The Word sown into their hearts!

Because his heart is **weak toward God** and **strong toward the world!**
The challenges that come from the world are too hard to endure so they quickly give up!

These people get no **manifestations** of The Word of God coming to pass in their lives.

They find it hard to **truly** love people and **obey The Word!**

They are up and down, back and forth in their relationship with God!