
The Power of the Word of God, Part 1: The Exalted Word

In this first lesson we will see why we turn to God's Word, the Bible, as the source or manual in our pursuit of knowing God. So journey with me and begin by asking God to meet with you personally, to reveal something about Himself to you, to refresh you in the ways you need it most.

Read Psalm 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.

What does this verse tell us about God's Word?

Now if you think about it, that is a very astounding statement! Think about how high and exalted God's Name is. Look up the following verses and write down what each one says about God's Name:

Genesis 17:1: His Name is _____

Psalm 83:18: His Name alone is the _____ and He is the _____

Proverbs 18:10: His Name is a _____

Matthew 6:9: His Name is _____ (Look up the definition for that word and write it here: _____)

Psalm 135:13: His Name _____

Judges 13:18: His Name is _____

Acts 4:12 & Acts 2:21: His Name gives _____

Psalm 20:7: His Name can be _____

Psalm 99:3: His Name is _____ and _____

Psalm 111:9: His Name is _____ and _____

Isaiah 57:15: His Name is _____ (Look up the definition for that word and write it here: _____)

And how are we to treat His Name? What should it elicit from us?

Psalm 100:4: We are to _____ His Name

Psalm 30:4: We are to _____ at the remembrance of His Name

Psalm 34:3: We are to _____ His Name

Psalm 68:4: We are to _____ to His Name

Psalm 86:11: We are to _____ His Name

Micah 4:5: We are to _____ in His Name

The Power of the Word of God, Part 1: The Exalted Word

Malachi 3:16: We are to _____ His Name

Revelation 15:4: We are to _____ His Name

What does God warn us *not* to do with His Name?

Exodus 20:7: You shall not _____

Why? because _____

Leviticus 19:12: We must not _____

or _____

Why? I AM _____

What does God say He will do for His Name?

Ezekiel 36:23: I will _____ My _____ Name (Some translations use the word “magnify.” What do you think God is saying He will do in this verse? _____

Write down some of the names of God you can remember:

His Name is to be revered above all other things. Now read Psalm 138:2 again. If the statement at the end of this verse is true (and we know it is because it is God’s Word), what does this tell you about the power of God’s Word? _____

Why do you think God would put His Word in such an elevated position? Why would He exalt His Word above His Name? Where did you learn about the names of God? And if you wanted to learn more names of God, where would you go? _____

Exactly, to His Word. If His Word were not elevated above His Name, how would we know that we could trust what it says about His Name? Picture in your mind’s eye God’s Word exalted above God’s Name. That is high and lofty, isn’t it?

Some translations say, “You have exalted above all things Your name and Your Word” (ESV) or “You have magnified Your Word according to all Your name.” (NASB)

Even with these translations, the Word of God is put on equal status as the Name of God and exalted above all other things. That understanding of God’s Word should put a great reverence in our hearts for the Bible. In fact, all the things you listed above about how we should treat God’s Name would also apply to how we should treat God’s Word since they are both exalted above all other things.

Take a few minutes to meditate some more on this verse. By meditating on it and pulling the verse apart to examine it more closely, we take the first steps toward memorizing it and keeping it with us always. We are not just trying to memorize words by rote, but to understand the full meaning.

What 2 things does the psalmist say he will do:

The Power of the Word of God, Part 1:
The Exalted Word

“I will _____ . . . and _____”

What is he praising God for?

1. God’s _____
2. God’s _____

Why? (Write out the last line)

Where do we learn about God’s love and truth? _____

This is precisely why God has given His Word such a lofty place: that we might know His love and His truth.

How have you treated God’s Word? Does it hold this high place of honor in your life—above all else? If you were to make a list of all the various things in your life and list them in order of real importance, where would the Word of God rank? Does it hold an exalted place in your life? Have you exalted it over every other priority and over every other ambition? Have you realized that God gave us His Word so He could reveal His love and His truth to you? Write out a prayer of reverence and commitment to God concerning His Word. Pray for God to transform your thinking about His Word as you continue to go through this series about the power of the Bible. Praise Him for giving you His Word.

Repeat Psalm 138:2 three to five times. Write it on a 3x5 card and tape it to your mirror or above the kitchen sink—some place where you will see it several times a day. Think of it as 3 sets of 2:

- 1) 2 things I will do
- 2) 2 things I will focus on
- 3) 2 things God has exalted and that I want to exalt in my own heart and life