

THE UNBREAKABLE WORD

John 10:35

Intro: Our Lord said this: ". . . and the scripture cannot be broken."

This is where we must begin.

I. WHAT DID HE MEAN?

This means to break it up into parts so as to accept some and reject other parts. It means to do away with any part of it. It means to divest it of its authority. It means ~~to disobey it.~~

One who breaks it up sets himself as an authority over the Word of God.

*An illus.:
Jas. 2:
8-11.*

This statement of our Lord's means: *Never cancelled,
Never revised,
Never added to.*

- 1) That God will not break it up.
- 2) That man cannot break it up. And, therefore, man had better not try.

We have that grand statement of Psa. 119:89,

"Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled (stands fast) in heaven."

We can see from this several reasons why the Word of God was committed to writing, and so are called, Scriptures:

- 1) To make it definite as to its limits. Not everything that men have tried to pass off as the Word of God is the Word of God. Men are continually trying to add to it. The additions are always just that: additions. The text of Scripture was settled long ago and no serious student of Scripture has ever come up with an reason to enlarge it.
- 2) To make it specific as to its meaning. What if we had be passing it down by word of mouth for 2,000 years?
- 3) To make it permanent as to its character. Our Lord told Satan when He was tempted, "It is written," i.e., it stands written.

All attempts to destroy the Word of God, to deny it, or to change it, have failed. That is why men are still working at the job -- a task destined to failure before it starts.

II. WHY DO MEN ATTEMPT TO BREAK THE WORD OF GOD?

A. They do it out of ignorance. A classic example after all that the Lord taught His disciples: when Peter rebuked the Lord for speaking of His death and resurrection.

B. They do it because of their background. How many there are who have been raised on certain doctrines who have

never examined the Scriptures for themselves.

- C. They do it because their hearts are rebellious.
- D. They do it to exercise power over other people -- like the scribes and Pharisees were doing.

Our Lord told the scribes and Pharisees,
 "For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men. . . Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:8, 9).

III. HOW DO MEN ATTEMPT TO BREAK THE WORD OF GOD?

- A. Probably the most common way is by ignoring it. You do not cancel its truth by pretending that it does not exist. We need to tell men this!
- B. By accepting part and rejecting the rest.
- C. By rejecting it all -- and this usually leads to an attack upon the Word of God.
- D. By failing to read it all.

IV. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?

- A. For those who do not know the Lord -- eternal judgment. Cf. Heb. 10:28-31.
- B. For those who do know the Lord:
 1. Loss of blessing, fellowship.
 2. Sin. Cf. Psa. 119:11; John 15:3.
 3. Loss of peace and joy -- which means loss of assurance. Cf. John 15:11; 16:33; 1 John 5:13.
 4. Fruitlessness.
 5. Ultimately -- if persisted in -- judgment.

V. EXAMPLES OF TRUTHS WHICH CANNOT BE BROKEN:

- A. Concerning those who reject the truth: Rom. 1:25-32. Note how the evil spreads out and becomes continually worse -- an excellent picture of what has happened in our country.
- B. The universality of sin: Gal. 3:22,

"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin . . ."

We do not approach the sinfulness of man through experience; we approach it through the Word and find it confirmed in experience.

C. Concerning the place given to Christ in the Scriptures.

Cf. John 5:39.

D. Concerning the need for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Cf. 1 Cor. 15:3, 4,

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

Or consider what Paul did in Thessalonica:

"And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ" (Acts 17:2, 3).

And later in the same chapter when he was at Berea:

"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether these things were so."

Truths were proved on the basis of the Word!

E. Concerning the exclusive need for faith in salvation.

Cf. Rom. 4:3,

"For what saith the scripture?

This puts an end to Paul's argument. What did it say?

"Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

That settled it!

F. Concerning all that we are to believe and how we are to live -- with a view toward serving the Lord.

Cf. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

Concl: What would be the result if we would stop trying to break the Word of God? By the grace of God, let us determine that we are going to find out. We need men like Martin Luther who are not afraid to declare, and to mean it, "My soul is captive to the Word of God."