

Fact Sheet for **“God’s Spiritual Provisions”**
Psalm 19

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We will celebrate Thanksgiving on Thursday. For many of us it will be a time for family, food, and relaxing. It will also be a time not only to thank God for His physical provisions for us, but also for His spiritual provisions (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). There is another spiritual provision we should always thank God for, and that is His written word. We would know nothing about God if He hadn’t revealed Himself to us. God reveals Himself to us in His creation.

ESV Psalm 19:1-6

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

- ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom leaving
his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with
joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

God reveals Himself and His desires for us in the words of the Bible.

ESV Psalm 19:7-9

- ⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple;
⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;
⁹ the fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;
the rules of the LORD are true,
and righteous altogether.

In character God’s Word, the Bible, is inerrant and infallible! It is what God calls us to live by (Joshua 1:7-8; Psalm 1:1-3, 119:1-176; Matthew 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21). These and many other passages tell of the character of God’s written

word. It is inerrant. It is infallible. The Bible is one of God's spiritual provisions for us. It weighs on us to treat His word carefully. This is a quote from our Declaration of Faith...

Scriptures

We believe the Bible is God's absolute, objective truth for all people for all times. It is without error in concept or detail in the original writings. It is breathed out in its entirety by God, divinely preserved, and, therefore, trustworthy. We believe the Holy Spirit superintended human authors so that, through their individual personalities and literary styles, they composed and recorded God's Word. It is God's written revelation complete in the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. It is the supreme authority in all matters to which it speaks and is sufficient for life, conduct, and practice – understandable by every believer. We believe Scripture must be understood through the literal, contextual, grammatical, and historical method of interpretation, and applied under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

But the Bible is under attack today, and many times from inside the church. Some are trying to redefine "inerrancy" (creation, gender roles in the church, sexuality). These are theological attacks on inspiration and infallibility. If we allow shifts in our culture or supposed contrived reasons from sources outside the Bible to call into question the plain teachings of God's Word, the process will not end until we deny the gospel and the God who saved us. We must look for meanings of the text that are resident in the text! But there is there is a more subtle attack that is much more common in churches. Let's go back to Psalm 19. These are the words that follow verses on the written revelation of God.

ESV Psalm 19:10-14

- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.**
- 11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.**
- 12 Who can discern his errors?
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**
- 13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous
sins;
let them not have dominion over me!
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.**
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of
my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

When we choose to continually live in such a way that is incongruent with Scripture, then we are, in a sense by our lives, denying the inerrancy and infallibility of God's Word.

At this time of year especially give God thanks for all of His provision for you, including His Word.