

## Reasons for Memorizing Scripture

edited by Stephen Ross

### 1. Scripture is the word of God:

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13

### 2. Scripture is profitable:

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

### 3. Scripture is living and powerful:

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

### 4. Scripture gives light and life to darkened hearts.

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:15

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 1 Peter 1:23

### 5. Memorizing Scripture is commanded by God.

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart. Job 22:22

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Colossians 3:16

6. Memorizing Scripture guards against sin:

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Psalm 119:9, 11

For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever. The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide. Psalm 37:28-31

7. Memorizing Scripture equips for spiritual warfare and Satan's attacks.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:17

The armor of God, as mentioned in Ephesians 6:10-20, only mentions one offensive weapon: "*the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.*"

When Jesus was tempted by the devil in the wilderness, he answered the devil with words of Scripture. "It is written..." See Matthew 4:1-11.

8. Memorizing Scripture helps promote spiritual growth:

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. 1 Peter 2:2

9. Memorizing Scripture helps in living a fruitful Christian life:

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. Luke 8:15

But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it. Deuteronomy 30:14

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the

judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. Psalm 1:1-6

10. Memorizing Scripture makes continual meditation possible:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. Psalm 1:1-2

O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. Psalm 119:97

11. Memorizing Scripture gives joy.

And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. 1 John 1:4

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. Jeremiah 15:16

12. Memorizing Scripture gives comfort and strength in time of trouble:

Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction. Psalm 119:92

13. Memorizing Scripture creates conviction regarding standards of righteousness and helps keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way. Psalm 119:128

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. John 17:17

14. Memorizing Scripture provides wisdom and guidance for daily living:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. James 3:17

15. Memorizing Scripture makes for more effective and improved prayers:

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7.

Having Scripture memorized, we will use more of God's Words in our prayers to Him, rather than commonly used clichés.

16. Memorizing Scripture affords the opportunity to comfort, counsel and encourage others:

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25:11

Wherefore comfort one another with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:18

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Colossians 3:16

17. Memorizing Scriptures helps in communicating the Gospel and witnessing to the unsaved, even with no Bible in hand.

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: 1 Peter 3:15

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 2 Timothy 4:2

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17

18. Memorizing Scripture is exemplified by Christ.

The Lord Jesus often quoted the Old Testament. He rebuked the teachers of the law for not knowing the Scriptures. He said, "It is written," and quoted Scripture, when tempted by the devil in the wilderness.

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