



"Responding to the Word of Grace" (Part 3)

01061Pe1.23-25(35)

1 Peter 1:23-25



22 Having purified your souls by obedience to the truth for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love each other from a pure heart. **23** You have been born again not out of perishable seed, but imperishable: through the living and enduring Word of God. **24** FOR ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS AND ALL OF HER GLORY IS LIKE A FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS AND THE FLOWER FADES, **25** BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD REMAINS FOREVER. And this is the Word which was preached to you.

2:1 Therefore, putting aside all wickedness, and all deceitfulness, and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, **2** Like newborn babies, long for the pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow with respect to salvation – **3** if indeed you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

– 1 Peter 1:22-2:3, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction: A Tale of Two Johns - John Huss and John Tetzel

"I have learned to render the canonical books [that is, the Bible] alone the honor of believing most firmly that none of them has erred; as for the others I do not believe in what they teach, simply because it is they who teach them." -- Augustine

I. Rightly Responding to the Word of Grace (1:22 - 2:3)

A. Rekindle Your Love for the Brethren (22) "What is the Measure of my Love?"

B. Remember Your Response to the Word (23-25) "What is my Perspective on Scripture?"

1. Remember the Word that saved you (23a)

2. Remember the Nature of that Word that Saved You (23b-25a)

a. Note the allusion to "seed"

(1) Everyone born of perishable seed will die

(2) Spiritual life in Christ is eternal because the author of that life is eternal

b. The seed in this context is the Word of God

c. Three characteristics of this "imperishable seed"

(1) It is Living (this is the product of the Word)

(2) It is Enduring (this is the permanence of the Word)

(3) It is God's (this is the possessor of the Word)

d. Verses 24-25 give us an Old Testament Illustration (Isaiah 40:6-8)

(1) "All flesh" = "all of humanity" and "her glory" refers to the "glory of men"

(a) This is humanity in miniature

e. "The grass withers and the flower fades but the Word of the Lord remains forever!"
(note connection to our salvation in vv. 23, 25)

3. Remember the Preaching of the Word that Saved You (25b)

Conclusion