

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" —Matthew 4:1-4 ESV

01.tif

¹The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. ²And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

02.tif

³And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

—Deuteronomy 8:1-3 ESV

02a.tif

"A more important source of sustenance than food, [the word] nurtures our spiritual needs in a way that benefits us eternally, rather than providing temporal relief from physical hunger." —John MacArthur

03.tif

¹²For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

¹³For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

"You are what you eat."

04.tif

05.tif

¹⁴But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

—**Hebrews 5:12-13 KJV**

06.tif

The Word is Compared to Meat Because It ...

Matures

07.tif

¹And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

²I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. —**1 Corinthians 3:1-2 KJV**

08.tif

“Through the years I have firmly believed that if revival is to come to the church, and if the Good News of Jesus Christ is to spread to the nations, it will be because men became godly and began living their faith with passion and integrity. I am fully aware that committed women have often taken up the spiritual responsibilities of families, churches, and communities.”

09.tif

“Without question, godly women have assumed a strategic role in world evangelism and have led the way in shaping our families and the future. Having said that, I firmly believe it is time for men to step up to the challenges of the twenty-first century. We are facing profound moral, ethical, domestic, and international issues that mark a culture in need of answers.”

10.tif

“What we need are spiritual men who will shape the future and change the world. But frankly, many men are not responding to the call, even though their influence is needed more today than at any other time in history. Now is the time for men to keep their promises and live their principles.”

—**Jack Graham, *A Man of God: Essential Priorities for Every Man's Life***

11.tif

**Rise up, O men of God!
Have done with lesser things.
Give heart and mind and soul
and strength
To serve the King of kings.
—William P. Merrill**

12.tif

The Word is Compared to Meat Because It ...

Endures

13.tif

**Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.
—Matthew 24:35 ESV**

14.tif

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.
—Isaiah 40:8 ESV**

15.tif

**Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed
in the heavens. —Psalm 119:89 ESV**

16.tif

How has the Bible been preserved?

Oral Traditions

17.tif

How has the Bible been preserved?

Manuscript Transmissions

18.tif

1. Aristotle's "Poetics"

-Written 343 B.C.

Earliest copy, A.D. 1100

-Gap of 1,423 years

Total manuscripts=49

2. Caesar's "Gallic Wars"

-Written 50-60 B.C.

Earliest copy, A.D. 900

-Gap of 1,000 years

Total manuscripts=10

3. Homer's "Iliad"

-Written 900 B.C.

Earliest copy, 400 B.C.

-Gap of 500 years

Total manuscripts=643

4. The Bible

- Written 2,000 years

40 Authors/3 Languages

- Earliest complete copy=A.D. 200

- Gap 100 years

10,000+ OT/5,000+ NT

19.tif

How has the Bible been preserved?

Printed & Digital Translations

20.tif

God is the Author: ¹⁶All Scripture is
breathed out by God and profitable for
teaching, for reproof, for correction,
and for training in righteousness,
¹⁷that the man of God may be
competent, equipped for every good
work. —2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

21.tif

God is the Protector: For truly,
I say to you, until heaven and earth
pass away, not an iota, not a dot,
will pass from the Law until all is
accomplished. —Matthew 5:18 ESV

22.tif

The Word is Compared to Meat Because It ...

Assures

23.tif

God's Word Assures Us of ...

Heaven	John 14:1-3
Salvation	1 John 5:1
Wisdom	James 1:5
Answered Prayer	1 John 5:13-14
Purpose	Romans 8:28
Understanding	1 Corinthians 13:12

24.tif

"You wouldn't know God without the Book. You wouldn't know Jesus Christ—not even His name—without the Book. You'd have no assurance of salvation or of heaven without the Book. Our whole life lies in the promise and assurance and revelation of the Lord God written here in the Book..."
—W.A. Criswell

25.tif

The Word is Compared to Meat Because It ...

Transforms

26.tif

"You are what you eat."

27.tif

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me... —John 5:39 ESV

28.tif

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

—Hebrews 4:12 ESV

29.tif

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart... —**Jeremiah 15:16a** *ESV*

30.tif

You are what you eat, so eat!

Matures—Endures—Assures—Transforms

31.tif

Let me keep in mind that my mortal body is the servant of my immortal soul:
Let me keep in mind how uncertain is my hold on my bodily life:
Let me remember that here I have no continuing city, but only a place of sojourn and a time of testing and of training:

32.tif

Let me use this word and not abuse it:
Let me be in this world, but not of it:
Let me be as having nothing yet possessing all things:
Let me understand the vanity of the temporal and the glory of the eternal:
Let my world be centered not on myself but in Thee.

—**John Baillie, *A Diary of Daily Prayer***

33.tif