

SERIES: The Basics of the Church

TITLE: A Word Driven Church

TEXT: 2 Peter 1:12-21

First Baptist Church of Wixom **must be** – A Word Driven Church.

- When I say “Word Driven”
 - I mean that we must begin with the Scriptures for everything that we seek to do.
 - By God’s grace, we as a church have prioritized this...
- But the people of FBC Wixom must be – Word Driven people.

I. The Word’s Authority Outlives its Deliverer (2 Peter 1:12-15)

- V14 – Peter says – that he must soon put off his tabernacle. “I’m about to die”
- V13 – He says, while I’m still in my tabernacle/my body, there is one thing I am never going to stop doing...
 - What is it! What is so important to the leader of the early church?
 - What is so important to one of Jesus’ 3 closest disciples?
 - I am going to stir you...provoke you...from the temptation of apathy and move you towards spiritual growth – how - by putting you in constant remembrance of the truth of God’s Word.
 - Peter says – “I’m going to drive you forward spiritually with the Word”
 - Even if you know these things, and you are established in the present truth...
 - The best way to deal with error, is to be constantly reminding yourself of the truth.
 - V15 –I will endeavor that you may be able...after my decease [when I’m dead] to have these things always in remembrance.
 - Do you know that Peter wanted the church to outlive Him?
 - He wanted the next generation of believers to follow Jesus with all their mind, heart, and soul...
 - Eph 2:19-20
 - The foundation of the church is the Word (the teaching of the apostles and prophets)
 - 1Thessalonians 2:13
 - This is why God in his wisdom established the church to be on the Word’s Authority...
 - Because the authority doesn’t need to come from all kinds of different people with different opinions...
 - Now, all of this is bringing us to a point...
 - QU: Is the Word the driving authority in your life?
 - The WORD is not the authority in your life if you aren’t putting yourself in remembrance of these things
 - 2 Peter 3:2

II. The Word's Accuracy Overcomes any Doubts (2 Peter 1:16-18)

- The word "fables" here is "mythos" – literally where we get the word "myth" from...
 - Peter says – we haven't followed myths.
 - I HEARD - the Word of God...
 - And I SAW HIM – in all his glory.
 - I saw the fulfilment of the NT – Jesus Christ reigning in power and glory.
 - This isn't a fable...this isn't a joke...This isn't something concocted up...
 - This is historical, its accurate, its truth straight from God Himself...
- The word is accurate – you can test it, you can try it

III. The Word's Authenticity Overpowers the Darkness (2 Peter 1:19-21)

- The written, complete, Bible as we have it this morning...is trustworthy...
 - We don't need more prophets and apostles...
 - We don't need people speaking babel in tongues
 - We don't need emotionalism, or an experience, or some other method to stir up the spirit...
 - We don't need someone else with a word from God...
 - We don't need Joseph Smith and Muhammad...
 - We have a more sure word of prophecy!
 - How are the Scriptures more sure?
 - Peter is literally saying...I have seen the glorified Lord. I have saw THE LIVING WORD...The WORD INCARNATE.
 - If the Scriptures were a person, I've seen Him – Its Jesus Christ.
 - I have seen Jesus as He will come at His Second Coming...
 - I have seen the end of the story...I have seen the fulfilment of the entire Scriptures....
 - And it is exactly as God has written.
 - This is why Peter is going to use every day he has left, to put you into remembrance of these things...
 - Are we a "church of the book?"
 - Ps 1:1-2
 - Job 23:12
 - Josh 1:8
 - Ezra 7:10
 - The discipleship trifecta:
 - Seek the Word
 - Do the Word
 - Teach the Word
- Ps 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
- A church with no guiding light will get lost in the darkness...
- But A Word Driven Church will shine brightly into the darkness, overcoming error and sin...