

I believe God has given us His revelation in order to study it and to see what is there and to learn from it what He wants us to believe. Actually this Psalm goes on to stress this very aspect.

Verse 7. The law of the Lord is perfect reviving the soul. The testimonies of the Lord and trustworthy. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, they are sweeter than honey and honey from the comb.

God has given us His Word not for a banner. Not for something to read and tell somebody else what they think and they tell somebody else and they tell somebody else and we get it from them, but for it to be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. When we handle about phrases without trying to see what the Bible says, we are not advancing the work of God.

God has left us here after we are saved for two reasons: He has left us here because He has purposes for our development and those == as those who are to live with Him through all eternity. He wants == wants us to have certain experiences through which He can develop us into the characters he wants us to be. Thus if we believe in Christ, if we have been saved through Him, we can know whatever happens in life God is controlling and directing it, that He has planned ahead and that some experiences are like the surgeon's knife. We don't like it. It isn't pleasant. But we know that One who wields the knife is the One who controls the universe, and is the One who loves us and He has purposes for our development in everything that He sends into our lives.

So the development of Christians in this world is one == certainly one of God's primary purposes. Now I believe there is one other primary purpose. That, of course, is for work that we will do for Him. Work that God hasn't chosen to snap His finger and have it accomplished. But He chooses in His wonderful goodness to use Christians for the purpose of accomplishing His will in reaching other ~~xxx~~ people to lead them into the kingdom of Christ, of reaching other people to help them to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord.

In each of these purposes we need constantly to recognize the glory of God, the power of God which is so much more important than anything we face in life, but also to recognize that to know of God -- of His character and purposes must be gleaned directly from the study of His Word. We must reach the point where indeed His Word is more precious to us than honey. Where we make it part of ourselves. Where we love to meditate upon it. Where we grow by it and where we use it in order that our lives may accomplish what He wants them to do.