



1 THESSALONIANS SERIES – 35
Responsibilities Toward God And His Word - Part 2
1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

INTRODUCTION

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

1. THE RESPONSIBILITY NOT TO QUENCH THE SPIRIT – v. 19

2. THE RESPONSIBILITY TO HONOR GOD’S WORD – v. 20

Do not despise prophecies – v. 20

“despise” (*exoutheneō*) to consider as absolutely nothing, treat with contempt, to look down on.

“prophecies” (*prophēteia*) - spoken words or written words.

The verb form means **“to speak or proclaim publicly”**

- Sometimes it was new revelation.
- Sometimes it was reiteration of what has already been said.

Because of Scripture’s essential character.

- it is authoritative (Isa. 1:2)
- it is completely infallible (Ps. 19:7)
- it is inerrant in every part (Prov. 30:5–6; Matt. 5:18)
- it is sufficient for all spiritual needs (Ps. 19:7–11; 2 Tim. 3:15–17)
- it is absolutely effective (Isa. 55:11)
- it is determinative of one’s spiritual condition (John 5:24)

Remember...

Your responsibility, by God’s enabling, is to constantly apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:7-9; Jam 1:22-27).

As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?

How can I accomplish this change?

What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

3. THE RESPONSIBILITY TO BE DISCERNING – v. 21 *“but test everything”*
“test” - *dokimazō* - refers to testing something for authenticity.

“everything” – *pas* - no exceptions; every issue/idea

4. THE RESPONSIBILITY TO HOLD FAST WHAT IS GOOD – v. 21
“hold fast what is good”

“hold fast” - *katechō* - to embrace, take possession of wholeheartedly

“good” (*kalos*) - what is inherently genuine, true, noble, and right

5. THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ABSTAIN FROM EVIL – v. 22
“Abstain from every form of evil.”

“Abstain” (*apechō*) - hold oneself away from any evil teaching/behavior

“form” – *eidos* – outward appearance

“evil” – *ponēros* - actively harmful or malignant