

Receive The Word

Acts 2:41

Many today are confused concerning meaning of phrase "they that gladly received his word". This Peter spoke, but was inspired of God
The meaning as used in text is different to feelings of majority today
Receiving Word is receiving Christ, can't have one w/out other **John 1:1-14**
Study will determine what is meant or involved in receiving word.

Receiving The Words Of Peter Required Giving Up Error

These individuals on Pentecost had to give up former ideas of Christ, because they had crucified him as an impostor and now they must accept him as Lord and Christ.
Instruction to Jeremiah regarding responsibility of turning Israel to God - **Jeremiah 1:9-10; John 17:17**
One cannot have error and truth at same time, they are not compatible
When Saul received truth gave up former beliefs, counted them loss - **Philippians 3:4-7**
Some today who think they want to receive truth actually do not because cost is more than they will pay. - **Matthew 19:16-22**

Receiving Word Involves Action On Part Of Receiver

Receiving without acting upon what is received is really not receiving at all, because faith without works is dead - **James 2:20**
If receive passive part (faith – not really passive in strict sense), but reject active part (works) you really haven't received it at all
These are like those in - **Isaiah 30:8-10**
They just want to hear what they want to hear, they are not really interested in truth

Notice When One Receives The Word They Save Themselves

Evident from Peter's exhortation in verse 40 and Paul's teaching to work out salvation through obedience to what they had been taught - **Philippians 2:12**
In rejecting the word man condemns himself, - **John 12:48; Acts 13:46**
We save our souls by receiving the word - **James 1:21**
In parable of soils/sower, **Matthew 13:3-9**; and application **18-23** wayside hearer did not receive word, even rocky soil hearer & thorny ground hearer did not truly receive word for they did not produce fruit like good ground hearer did.

What Demonstrates These "Gladly Received The Word?"

Notice the action on the part of these receivers of the word
They heard the word that was preached **v.37**
They believed word preached, evident from fact were pricked (cut) in their heart **v.37** If they had not believed what Peter had said about Jesus it would not have bothered them in their heart
They repented of sins, (as Peter told them **v.38**) as prerequisite to being baptized, so if they had not repented of their sins they could not have been baptized for the remission of their sins
Then were baptized in name of Jesus, for remission of sins. **v.41**
They were then added to Lord's church, the one he promised to build - **Matthew 16:18**
Was Lord that added **v.47** not body of individuals who voted, on completion of obedience, making them part of His body.

For eternal salvation one must "receive word" as those on Pentecost

This means more than just hearing words, it involves understanding and acting upon that which you understand - **Matthew 13:23**
Remember, receiving the word requires faithfulness to word. - **Acts 2:42**
Notice the Corinthians had received Gospel and were standing in it - **1Corinthians 15:1-2,58**
Have you received the word in the same way these did on Pentecost?