# The Voice Of Truth

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## **Hillcrest church of Christ**

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### "My Words Shall Not Pass Away"

By Jimmy Pettigrew

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35). The Word of God, the Bible, shall not perish. It is undying, changeless, fixed, firm, endless, enduring, eternal and everlasting! The Psalmist said, "For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations" (Psalm 100:5). It cannot be destroyed; it is indeed, "the word of life" (Philippians 2:16), and it cannot ever be loosened, dissolved, or broken (John 10:34-35). The Word of God cannot be broken up, demolished, destroyed, overthrown, annulled, or done away with!

Isaiah stated so clearly, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isaiah 40:8). Peter goes on to say that we are "born again ... by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever ... and this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (1 Peter 1:23, 25).

Men in every age have endeavored to defeat God's Word. Approximately 2500 years ago, Jehoiakim, king of Judah, took a penknife and cut the scroll of Jeremiah's prophecy into pieces and then threw it, piece by piece, into the fire. He destroyed the scroll, but he didn't destroy the message of the prophet, the Word of God. In **Jeremiah 36:32**, we find the words of the scroll being rewritten and those words are with us today. Jehoiakim, however, did not enjoy such longevity. He died in disgrace, and Jeremiah tells us that he received the "burial of an ass" (**Jeremiah 22:18-19**).

After the life and death of Jesus, Diocletian, the Roman emperor, began a mass persecution of Christians, burning churches, killing the men and enslaving the women. A heavy and relentless attack of the Bible accompanied the persecution. Diocletian made an effort to destroy every copy of the Holy Scriptures in existence. On one occasion he erected a monument over ashes of burned Bibles. the The inscription on the monument read: Extinct is the name of Christians. The irony of it all is that only 25 years later the next Constantine, emperor, commissioned Eusebius to produce 50 Bibles at the expense of the Roman government and then provided places for them to be read publicly throughout the empire.

Voltaire, the famous French infidel, prophesied in 1750 that within one hundred years both the Bible and Christianity would be extinct. Twentyeight years later, Voltaire was extinct. Fifty years after his death, the Geneva Bible Society was using not only Voltaire's own printing press but his house also to produce and distribute thousands of Bibles throughout Europe.

Men have attacked the Bible and tried to destroy it, but "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" (**Psalm 119:89**).

The Bible has endured time, persecution and criticism because it is the eternal Word of our eternal God. The Word will remain until the end of time and will judge us (John 12:48).

#### Life's Clock

Author Unknown The clock of life is wound but once, And no man has the power To tell just when the hands will stop, At late or early hour. To lose one's wealth is sad, indeed, To lose one's health is more; To lose one's soul is such a loss. And no man can restore. The present only is our own. Live, love, toil with a will; Place no faith in "Tomorrow", For the clock may then be still.

#### HOW TO GET WHAT YOU WANT

If you want friends — **be friendly.** If you want someone to smile — **smile.** If you want courtesy — **be courteous.** If you want knowledge — **study.** If you want a good name — **live right.** If you want to reap well — **sow well.** If you want to be a Christian — **obey God's word.** If you want to go to heaven — **live a Christian life** 

#### Points To Ponder

You must expect to be bored if you are not interested in anything but yourself.