

"And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And The Word Of The LORD Was Precious In Those Days; there was no open vision." 1 Samuel 3:1 KJV

Availability determines value. We don't really gain a full appreciation of things until we lose them. In my own case, I never fully appreciated the simple act of taking an unassisted step until I lost the ability. Walking was something I never thought about. Now, lying in a bed makes it priceless. I'm not depressed about it. It's just curious to me how, now, I am truly thankful to God for the abilities I still have. I can still see, hear, and speak. (My wife wishes I heard more and spoke less!) To believe the intricacies of the human body just "evolved" is to believe your cell phone just happened. What you've never had you'll never miss. I grew up without TV, indoor plumbing, electricity, and only had shortwave radio about once a week. We were poor by worldly standards, but I never once thought so. I read a lot, learned guitar, and how to survive alone in the jungle. One summer, out of sheer lack of other books, I read the complete set, A - Z, of 1966 World Book Encyclopedia and the 20 volume set of accompanying "Child Craft" storybooks. Did I miss anything? Only all the Hollywood and public school indoctrination that set up the "peace and love" drugs and violence of the 70's and 80's. Even as an unsaved young man, I knew right from wrong and believed in it. My point is; Israel had become accustomed to a leader who spoke directly to God, so when there "*was no open vision*," they turned to Baal worship and immorality. The Written Word of God was in the possession of the scribes and priests; a scarce commodity that had to be earnestly sought. Few missed it for few had it. Wickedness resulted, and Judgment soon fell upon them for God's Word "*Was Precious*." Will Judgment soon fall on the U.S.? I fear so!



Is "precious" now, a past tense word,
For when we think about God's Word?
Or would your life be sacrificed,
Preserving what can have no price? -CGP

God's Written Word is available in most department stores. Bibles, commonplace, but uncommon, are taken for granted. What would you do if there were suddenly no more Bibles? Or they became illegal as they already are in many countries? Men risk their very lives to smuggle God's Word to these countries, because to them It's "*precious*." How precious is God's Written Word to you? Would you die to protect it? Do you take it for granted that tomorrow you'll even have it? How about your children? Israel went into the bondage of Babylon, because parents did not teach their children the priceless value of God's Word. "*The LORD our God Is One LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And These Words, Which I Command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach Them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of Them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write Them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.*" Will your children be Babylon's slaves or God's Servants? Can we say with the Psalmist:

"Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of Thy Word. I rejoice at Thy Word, as one that findeth great spoil. I hate and abhor lying: but Thy Law do I love. Seven times a day do I praise Thee because of Thy Righteous Judgments. Great Peace Have they which love Thy Law: and nothing shall offend them." Psalms 119:161-165 KJV