"What Our Attitudes Toward the Word of God Say about US" (Various texts) GCC, Morning Worship, 5/7/23

Introduction

- A. The Word of the Living God is LIVING and ACTIVE (Heb 4:12–13)
- B. The common denominator of every revival, Reformation, revitalization, and time of Refreshing is attentive ears and open hearts to the word of God (Isa 8:20; 1 Thess 2:13; cf. 2LBC 1:10)

I. Dangerous Attitudes

- A. "I like the word of God when it makes me feel good. I HATE it when it doesn't" (1 Kgs 22:1–19)
- B. Sadness because the Word of God calls me to give up something I want to keep (Matt 19:16–22 and then Jesus' commentary in vv. 23–30)
- C. A desire to *justify* and *defend* myself (Luke 10:25–29, esp. v. 29)
- D. "Rage and murder" (Acts 7:54)

II. Transforming Attitudes

- A. "Cut to the heart with God-fearing, God-honoring guilt coupled with a desire to be saved and helped (Acts 2:36, 37)
- B. "A willingness to do whatever it takes to repent and glorify God" (Luke 19:1–10)
- C. A willingness to be purified and revived by the word of God (Psalm 19:9–14)
- D. A Teachable Heart (Psalm 141:5)
 ⁵ Let a righteous man strike me-- it is a kindness; let him rebuke me-- it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it. Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds. (Ps. 141:5)

III. The Wounds Inflicted by the Law will be Bound up and Healed by the Gospel (Hos 6:1-3)

Questions for reflection, prayer, and meditation:

- 1. Why must our attitudes toward the Word of God constantly be recalibrated?
- 2. How do we recalibrate our attitudes toward the Word of God?
- 3. How can we use the input of pastors and the brethren to help us recalibrate our attitudes toward the Word of God?
- 4. Do you want God to repent of the circumstances He's sovereignly placed you in? Or do you want to repent of your prideful responses to His sovereign decree?
- 5. To which "dangerous" attitude are you most prone?
- 6. Discuss a time in which your vulnerability to (i.e., openness to) the Word of God brought transformation in your life.
- 7. What has God promised will accompany the wounds of the Law (see Hos 6:1–3)? How does this make us hopeful in receiving the rebuke of the Law?