

## The Implanted Word

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by John Hines

*“A sower went out to sow his seed...” (Lk. 8:5). Again and again in Scripture we see the figure of the seed. It is a picture that points us to work, to hope, even to the expectations of the Lord as He is looking for fruit. In James, we see another seed passage; “Lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls” (James 1:21). It is a wonderful promise, but it is not a promise without some stipulations. The word will do its intended job, but not if we do not lay aside sin. It is the power of God unto salvation, but if we do not receive it humbly, willing to yield to the Potter’s hands, it will be ineffective in our lives. **We must receive it as...***

**A LAMP** – *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path... I am afflicted very much; Revive me, O Lord, according to Your word” (Psalm 119:105-107). We can see exactly where we are, with God’s word. We may not like where we are, but in a world of darkness, God has given us a light.*

**A GUIDE** – *As people, “cry out to the Lord in their trouble... He calms the storm so that its waves are still. Then they are glad because they are quiet; so He guides them to their desired haven” (Psalm 107:23-31). We are thankful for God’s word, not just to see where we are, but also to see where we need to go.*

**SUSTENANCE** – *“How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way” (Psalm 119:103,104). We may be pilgrims, strangers in a strange land, but we have food for the journey. We have the Word.*

**PROTECTION** – *“Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged*

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