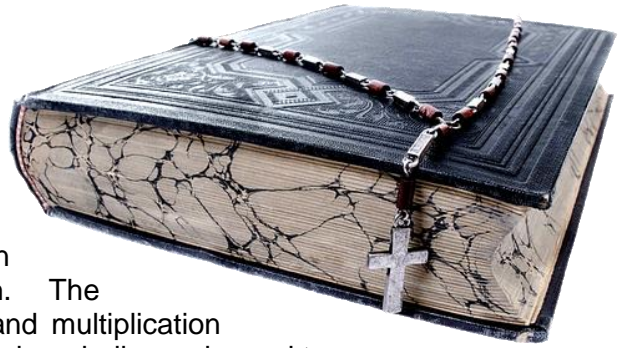


***“Therefore the Word of the Lord will be to them
[merely monotonous repeatings of]
precept upon precept, precept upon
precept;
rule upon rule, rule upon rule;
here a little, there a little; . . .”
Isaiah 28:13 (TAB)***



As a young girl I remember being in elementary school class learning simple math. The teacher wrote lessons of addition, subtraction and multiplication numbers on the blackboard. She would then take her chalk or ruler and tap the numbers, and in rote fashion, we sounded along with her the lessons to learn. This was repeated over and over in class until we had it in our heads. (That was probably an old-fashioned method, but was good for learning).

In this fashion we may learn God's Word. So often when I had learned a new passage of scripture and its meaning, I knew I had it in my head. But often, if it hadn't gotten into my heart, the message would fade, and soon I would forget the lesson. Going back to the passage or story is good for me because I am able to re-learn the meaning and then prayerfully apply the principle to my life, thereby getting it into my heart.

However, that is not the end of it; just because I know the message, I must return to reading scriptures over and over to remember and then gain even more insight from the same study. In our humanity, this is necessary, and the Lord knows what we need. That is why down through the ages of the Old and New Testaments, His Book was written and repeated along in various ways ("precept upon precept") to give us the foundation of His message by the prophets and the teaching of Jesus and ultimately leading of the Holy Spirit. As we continue to read and re-read, the Lord gives more insight and understanding ("rule upon rule"). The Lord wants to show us many things which are the best for us and in His perfect will, and our prayers will also become more effective. If we do not know His will in a matter, we are in the dark and do not know how to pray.

His Book is a personal Book written for you and for me and gives us the way to go for the best life possible as we follow His precepts and rules. There's more, so much more!

***“This also comes from the LORD of hosts,
Who is wonderful in counsel, [and] excellent in wisdom and effectual working.” vs. 29***

Becky Stewart