

“Truth? What Is Truth?”

- Next to love the truth is of equal importance.

Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and **all** (*does not exclude the “little white” lies*) **liars**, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. (*Emp. Added*)

Eph 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby **they lie in wait to deceive**; 15 But **speaking the truth in love**, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, *even* Christ: (*Emp. Added*)

So what is truth?

Joh 18:37 Pilate therefore said unto Him, Art Thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and **for this cause** came I into the world, that I should **bear witness unto the truth**. Every one that is **of the truth heareth** (*Gk.191- understands*) **My voice** (*Gk.5456- saying*). 38 Pilate saith unto Him, **What is truth?** And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in Him no fault *at all*. (*Emp. Added*)

Mat 4:3 And when the tempter came to Him, he said, If Thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 4 But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by **every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God**. (*Emp. Added*)

Joh 17:17 Sanctify (*Gk.37- make holy*) them Through Thy truth: **Thy word is truth**. (*Emp. Added*)

1. Jesus is the Son of God!

Mat 14:26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. 27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. 28 And Peter answered Him and said, Lord, if it be Thou, bid me come unto Thee on the water. 29 And He said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. 31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth *His* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? 32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. 33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped Him, saying, **Of a truth Thou art the Son of God**. (*Emp. Added*)

Php 2:5 Let this mind (*Gk.5426- be [mentally] disposed*) be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being **in the form** (*Gk.3444- nature*) **of God**, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: (*Emp. Added*)

Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of *His* glory, and the **express image** (*Gk.5841- an exact copy*) **of His person** (*Gk.5287- essence*), and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

4 Being made (*Gk.1096- found, ordained to be*) [*shows His purpose*] so much better than the angels, as He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent (*Gk.1313- surpassing*) name (*Gk.3686- authority*) than they. (*Emp. Added*)

Col 1:15 Who is the Image (*Gk.1504- representation*) of the invisible God, the Firstborn of every creature: 16 For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: 17 And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let **us** make man in **our** image, after our likeness: (*Emp. Added*)

- As co-Creator Jesus is equal to God. We understand that by making man in His image, God created us as spiritual beings. In the beginning man could stand in the presence of God but lost that privilege once he became disobedient to His will.

Exo 33:20 And He said, Thou canst not see My face: for there shall no man see Me, and live.

- No man can approach the Father and live because of His holiness. So, God sent Jesus. Not that Jesus wasn't equal to God in holiness either. He came in a physical form whereby He could be approached.

Rom 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God **sending His own Son in the likeness** (*Gk.3667- a form; resemblance*) **of sinful flesh**, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (*Emp. Added*)

2Co 5:21 For He hath made Him *to be* sin for us, **Who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. (*Emp. Added*)

Joh 14:7 If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him.

2. There is only **One** God Which consists of **Three** equal Persons.

1Jn 5:7 For there are **three** that bear record in heaven, the **Father**, the **Word** (*Jesus- Jn 1:1-3*), and the **Holy Ghost**: and **these three are One**. (*Emp. Added*)

The Father and Son:

2Pe 1:17 For He received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the Excellent Glory, **This is My beloved Son**, in Whom I am well pleased. (*Emp. Added*)

1Jn 2: 22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the **Father and the Son**. (*Emp. Added*)

The Holy Spirit:

Act 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to **lie to the Holy Ghost**, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own?

and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast **not lied unto men, but unto God.** (*Emp. Added*)

3. The Kingdom came.

Luk 9:27 But I tell you of a truth, there be **some standing here**, which shall **not taste of death, till they see the kingdom** of God. (*Emp. Added*)

- That was soon to be **two thousand years ago** when Jesus made that statement.

Luk 17:20 And when He was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, **the kingdom of God is within you.** (*Emp. Added*) (*"It is spiritual in nature! You will know then when it comes!"*)

Col 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, Who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who **hath delivered** us from the power of darkness, and **hath translated us into the kingdom** of His dear Son: (*Emp. Added*)

Act 2:41 Then they that gladly **received his word were baptized:** and the same day there were **added unto them** about three thousand souls. (*Emp. Added*)

Act 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord **added to the church** (*translated into the kingdom*) daily such as should be (*those who were being*) saved. (*Thus making the church and the kingdom synonymous.*) (*Emp. Added*)

4. Is from God through Jesus Christ.

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) **full of grace and truth.** (*Emp. Added*)

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days **spoken unto us by His Son**, Whom He hath appointed Heir of all things, by Whom also He made the worlds; (*Emp. Added*)

Joh 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as **I hear**, I judge: and My judgment is just; because I seek not Mine own will, but **the will of the Father** which hath sent Me. (*Emp. Added*)

1Th 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not as the word of men, but **as it is in truth, the word of God**, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. (*Emp. Added*)

5. It exposes the inner man.

Joh 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light (*Gk.5457- Thayer: the saving truth embodied in Christ and by His love and effort imparted to mankind*) is come into the world, and **men loved darkness** (*Gk.4655- Thayer: metaph. of ignorance respecting divine things and human duties, and the accompanying ungodliness and immorality, together with their consequent misery*) [*People would rather me miserable?*] **rather than light**, because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light,

lest his **deeds should be reproved** (*syn.-criticized*) [*Which is why you have people demonizing Christians for speaking out against immorality.*]. 21 But he that **doeth** (*Gk.4160-Thayer: to perform something worthy of a Christian*) **truth** cometh to the light, that his **deeds may be made manifest** (*syn.-apparent, obvious, visible*), that they are wrought (*Gk.2038- to toil*) in God. (*Emp. Added*)

Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness (*4655*), but rather reprove (*syn.-rebuke*) them. 12 For **it is a shame even to speak of those things** (*let alone view such pornography*) **which are done of them in secret**. 13 But all things that are reproved are **made manifest by the light**: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. (*Emp. Added*)

Joh 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. (*Satan cannot speak the truth just as God cannot lie. What might seem to be truth coming from Satan is actually a twisted fact that ultimately, if followed, brings misery.*) 45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe Me not. 46 Which of you convinces Me of sin? (*“Which of you can prove Me to be in error?”*) And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe Me? 47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear (*Gk.191- understand*) them not, because ye are not of God. (*They didn't understand because they had no desire to. They were/are content in their sin.*)

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jn 3:18 My little children, let us not **love** in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and **in truth**. 19 And hereby **we know that we are of the truth**, and shall **assure our hearts before Him**. 20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and **knoweth all things**. (*Emp. Added*)

6. It is what God seeks in His creation.

Joh 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father **in spirit and in truth**: for the Father **seeketh such** to worship Him. (*Emp. Added*)

Eph 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness (*ignorant*), but now *are ye* light in the Lord: **walk as children of light** (*live as children of understanding*): 9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) 10 Proving what is **acceptable unto the Lord**. (*Emp. Added*)

3Jn 1:2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. (*“You are spiritually healthy but I would also wish for you to be “financially and physically healthy”. There are more than not who are the opposite, they are physically and finically healthy but not spiritually well.*) 3 For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou **walkest in the truth**. 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my **children walk** (*Gk.4043- follow: -be occupied with*) **in truth**. (*Emp. Added*)

7. It can be known and can save.

1Jn 5:13 These things have I **written** unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that **ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. (*Emp. Added*)

- I came out of a denomination where I was told I was saved but I didn't know what I did to be saved. So, I couldn't explain to others how I was, allegedly at that time, saved.

1Ti 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 **Who will** (*Gk.2309- to determine*) **have all men to be saved** (*God is so determined to save His creation that He sent His beloved Son to give His life as ransom to redeem mankind back to Him.*), and to come unto the knowledge of the truth (*But in order to be saved we first have to know the truth.*). 5 For *there is* one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who **gave Himself a ransom** for all, to be testified in due time. (*Emp. Added*)

8. It can get you into trouble but can also protect you.

Joh 8:34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. 35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: *but* the Son abideth ever. 36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. 37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill Me, because My word hath no place in you. 38 I speak that which I have seen with My Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. 39 They answered and said unto Him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now **ye seek to kill Me, a man that hath told you the truth**, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. (*Emp. Added*)

Gal 4:16 Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

- And here's how the truth protects us.

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your **loins girt about with truth**,.. (*Emp. Added*)

"The "girdle" seems sometimes to have been a cincture (Webster: belt) of iron or steel, and designed to keep every part of the armor in its place, and to gird the soldier on every side."

Albert Barnes

- Thus without the truth, righteous and faith along with salvation cannot be attained.

9. Can't get to Heaven without knowing it.

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth**, and the **life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me**. (*Truth leads us to Jesus Who is our access to the Father.*) (*Emp. Added*)

Joh 17:19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also might be **sanctified** (*Gk.37- to make holy*) **through the truth**. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, **but for them also** which shall believe on Me **through their word**; (*Emp. Added*) (*We cannot know how to become holy aside from the word of God which is truth. Therefore without truth, no one will see God.*)

2Th 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in **them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.** 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, **that they should believe a lie:** 12 **That they all might be damned who believed not the truth,** but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning **chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:** 14 Whereunto He called you by our gospel, **to the obtaining of the glory** of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(Emp. Added)*

Heb 10:26 For if we sin willfully **after that we have received the knowledge of the truth,** there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins (...because Jesus became the final offering to take away sin. He was the best, most perfect offering that God could give!), 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. *(Emp. Added)*

*Heb 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all.** (Emp. Added)*

Jas 1:18 Of His own will begat He us **with the word of truth** (*Jn 3:3 "born again"*), that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. *(Emp. Added)*

Jas 5:19 Brethren, if any of you do **err from the truth,** and one convert him; 20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall **save a soul** from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins. *(Emp. Added)*

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth** through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently: 23 **Being born again,** not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God,** which liveth and abideth forever. *(Emp. Added)*

10. God does not show favoritism.

- Therefore anyone and everyone is given the opportunity to seek His grace!

Act 10:34 Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:** 35 **But** in every nation **he that feareth Him,** and **worketh righteousness,** is accepted with Him. *(Emp. Added)*

Rom 2:1 Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. 2 But we are sure that **the judgment of God is according to truth** against them which commit such things. *(Emp. Added)*

11. It can be twisted and resisted.

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, **who hold (back) the truth** in unrighteousness; 19 Because that **which may be known** of God is manifest in them; for **God hath shewed it unto them.** *(Emp. Added)*

- Those who seek after the truth with all their heart will find it. It is available to everyone who looks for it. Even in Muslim countries where the Bible is forbidden it can be found.

Rom 1:25 Who **changed the truth of God into a lie**, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, Who is blessed forever. Amen. *(Emp. Added)*

1Ti 6:3 If any man teach otherwise, and **consent not** to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting (*Gk.3552- to harp upon*) about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and **destitute of the truth**, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. *(Emp. Added)*

2Ti 2:17 And their word will eat as doth a canker *Gk.1044- [to gnaw]; an ulcer ["gangrene"]*: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who **concerning the truth have erred**, saying that the resurrection is past already; and **overthrow the faith of some**. *(Emp. Added)*

2Ti 3:6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, 7 **Ever learning**, and **never able to come to the knowledge of the truth**. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres (*probably the two Egyptian sorcerers of Ex 7:11*) withstood Moses, so do these also **resist the truth**: men **of corrupt minds**, reprobate concerning the faith. *(Emp. Added) (Just as these two sorcerers were found to be hacks, those who attempt to warp the truth for their own agendas will be exposed for who they really are, false prophets and reprobates!)*

2Pe 2:1 But there were **false prophets** also among the people, **even as there shall be false teachers among you**, who privily shall bring in **damnable heresies**, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And **many** shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the **way of truth** shall be **evil spoken of**. *(Emp. Added)*

12. It can set you free if you let it.

Joh 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, If ye **continue in My word**, *then* are ye My disciples indeed; 32 And **ye shall know the truth**, and the **truth shall make you free**. *(Emp. Added) (As Peter said in 2 Pet 3:18, grace and knowledge have the same importance. But grace can't be obtained without knowledge which comes from God's word, which is truth!)*

- So what is the truth? God's word is truth (*Jn 17:17*)! And if we follow what it says we will enjoy an eternity of bliss with Him. But first we need to know it and heed to His calling.

Hear: Romans 10:14 ... "how shall they believe in Him Whom they have not heard?"

Believe: Heb 11:6 ... "for he that commeth to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

Repent: Act 3:19 ... "Repent ... be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."

Confess: Mat 10:32 "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father Who is in Heaven."

Be baptized: 1 Pet 3:21 "...baptism doth also (*not the only thing but is necessary to*) now save us..."

Remain faithful: Rev 3:21 “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.”

Charli Yana
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