

## THE TRUTH OF GOD

### Int.

1. Aim: To discuss the importance of following the truth that God has revealed to us.
2. The Truth of God - Rom. 1:25, 3:7, 15:8
  - a. Rom. 1:25 "Who changed **the truth of God** into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."
  - b. Rom. 3:7 "For if the truth of God hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner?"
3. Truth - The word truth is found in 233 verses in the Bible
4. This is where we read and learn the truth of God.

### Discussion

#### I. **WHAT IS TRUTH?**

- A. John 18:36-38
  1. Pilate asked Jesus if he was a king. Jesus said He was, and that this was the purpose for Him being born.
  2. He then stated that he would bear witness unto the truth.
  3. Those who are of the truth will hear his voice.
  4. Then Pilate asked: "What is truth?"
  5. Many today are like Pilate - they are confused and want to know "what is truth?"
  6. Some people ask: "How can I know what is right? Every preacher and every church is preaching and teaching something different?"
  7. Some are even saying that we cannot really know the truth!

## B. Definition of the word

1. **Truth** .- Definition from Merriam Webster online Dictionary
  - a. The state of being the case - FACT
  - b. The body of real thing, events, and facts
  - c. The property of being in accord with fact or reality.
2. **Truth**, then is conformity to fact or reality. It is actuality.

## C. Jesus Christ is the source of all truth

1. John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."
2. John 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."
3. John 1:17 "For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."
4. Paul wrote: "If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the Truth is in Jesus." Eph. 4:21

## D. This truth is revealed in the Bible

1. John 17:17 NKJV "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."
2. This word is indestructible - men may oppose the truth, but they cannot destroy it!

## E. Truth

1. It is the message of God to man
2. It is contained in this inspired book called the Bible
3. He teaches us all things that pertain to life and Godliness - 2 Pet. 1:3 "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:"
4. God's truth to mankind is here for us to read and learn and obey.

## II. MAN CAN KNOW THE TRUTH

- A. John 8:32 - Jesus tells us that we can know the truth "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Jn. 8:32 NKJV Know = to come to a knowledge
- B. Some men affirm that we cannot really know the truth
  1. Use such expressions as:
    - a. "Who knows?"
    - b. "Can we be sure?"
    - c. "Who set you up as a judge?"
    - d. "Let's not become legalistic"
  2. They say: "I know that no one can know the truth."
  3. This is a self-contradictory statement
  4. A professor in a state university once stated, "There is no such thing as absolute truth." A Christian student timidly raised his hand, and asked: "Are you absolutely sure?"<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Spiritual Sword - p. 1 Vol. 28: No. 3 April 1997 "Can we know the truth?" by Alan Highers

5. 2 Tim. 3:7 NKJV "always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." Like a dog with a hot dog on a stick tied to his stomach.
6. We can learn and understand God's Truth - Eph. 5:17 "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but **understanding** what the will of the Lord [is]". Comprehend

### **III. TRUTH IS IMPORTANT**

#### A. Without it we cannot be saved

1. John 8:32 - sets us free "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
2. 1 Pet. 1:22 - purified by obeying the truth - "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:" - to make clean
3. 2 Jn. 4 - we can walk in the truth "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father."

#### B. We will be judged by the truth

1. Jn. 12:48 "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." The word is the truth - Jn. 17:17
2. 2 Cor. 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things [done] in [his] body, according to that he hath done, whether [it be] good or bad."
3. Our eternal destiny will be decided by whether or not we have obeyed the truth of God and walked in it.

## **IV. THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TRUTH OF GOD**

### A. Truth is absolute

1. It is never changed
2. Truth will always be right it does not change with the passing of years.
  - a. Time does not make it truer than what it already is.
  - b. Nor does time diminish its truth-value
3. It is consistent.
4. God's truth will always be the guide for acceptable living.

### B. Truth is eternal.

1. "For His lovingkindness is great toward us, And the truth of the Lord is everlasting. Praise the Lord!" Psalm 117:2
2. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away" Matthew 24:35
3. Truth does not go out of fashion;, it does not change with time - it is eternal.

### C. Truth is universal

1. "For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church" 1 Corinthians 4:17
2. Some would have us think that when Paul wrote to the Corinthians about the role of women in the church, he was speaking only to those saints in that culture at that time and place.

3. This is not what Paul indicates in chapter 4, verse 17. He tells the Corinthians his teaching conforms to his practice, and that this is consistent no matter where he goes. Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Ukraine, India
4. The Bible works everywhere, any time, and among any people, *because the Bible is truth.* It is universal.

D. We can tell the difference between truth and error

1. Acts 17:11 "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."
2. They searched the scriptures to see if what was taught was really true
3. 1 Thes. 5:21 "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."
4. If we can't distinguish between truth and error then the Bible has laid a responsibility on us that we cannot do. 1 Cor. 14:8 - uncertain sound
5. We can learn the difference between truth and error!!

E. We must love the truth.

1. Not only did Jesus make clear that mankind can know truth (John 8:32) and that God's word is the truth (John 17:17), but that we will be judged by the truth (John 12:48). Therefore, our attitude toward the truth becomes very important. For, if one does not love and respect the truth of God, how can anyone truly say he loves God?
2. If one does not love and respect the words of Christ, how can one truly say he loves Christ? John 14:15

3. If one does not love and respect the Bible, how can anyone truly say they love God the Holy Spirit who revealed the divine will to man?
4. They, in fact, cannot make such a claim. Paul makes this point by referring to those who are perishing, because, "they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved" 2 Thess. 2:19
5. Therefore, we can not be indifferent to truth and at the same time be pleasing in the sight of God.
6. Loving and respecting the truth will mean that we will not mishandle it. We recognize its importance, so we do not add to it or take anything away from it (Gal. 1:8-9).
7. If we were to do such, God would count us as liars (Prov. 30:5-6). So, we study it and handle it properly (2 Tim. 2:15); we recognize that it accords with godliness (Titus 1:1) and that it sanctifies (John 17:17). We understand that not everyone will love the truth as they ought, so they will do their best to change it trying to make it say something it was never intended to say (Matt. 4; Jere. 9:5; Romans 2:8; 1 John 5: 9,10).

F. We cannot change the truth !!!!

1. Men have tried from the beginning to change the truth of God. But it cannot be done.
2. God's word is indestructible - Matt. 24:35 "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."
3. One may oppose truth, but he cannot destroy it. One may not accept and believe the truth, but it remains the truth of God!!

4. Men want to change God's truth because they do not like it!!! They want to make it easier or different.
5. III. Football game: A runner was going down the sideline and he needs a few extra yards of running room along the side so he can make a touchdown. He is hemmed in by the sideline and is sure to be tackled. So he simply extends the playing field by 5 yards and tells the officials that the field needed to be wider than what it was. This would give him room to make the touchdown.
6. III. # 2 Basketball game: Time is almost expired for the game. My team is behind by 2 points and we are making a comeback. We need an extra 5 minutes in order to have the opportunity to score enough points to win. Is the coach going to be able to change the rules to suit himself???
7. There would be no game if there were not rules that applied to all alike
8. We cannot change the truth of God !

## **Conclusion**

1. God has made the rules for life! This is His truth that we are to follow.
2. It is the truth that will save us: - John 8:32
3. What is important is not what man wishes, but it is God's truth that is important.
4. Jesus said: Mt. 7:21 NKJV "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."
5. Will you: - accept the truth - love the truth - obey the truth - and live by the truth of God's Word?
6. Prov. 23:23 NKJV "Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding."

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Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Morning August 16, 2009  
Evans Church of Christ  
515 Gibbs Road  
Evans, Ga. 30809  
706-855-1249  
evanscoc@bellsouth.net  
[www.evansgachurchofchrist.org](http://www.evansgachurchofchrist.org)