

The Biblical Concept of Truth (2)

Introduction

- A. You have to work hard to find something more valuable than the truth.
- B. When the Lord Jesus said, ". . . I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6) He meant that He was the cause or source of the truth. This is where it is helpful to begin - recognizing that truth is first of all a person and then it is what He has said and what He has done.
- C. It is interesting to look into the Scripture and see those things that accompany truth. We find by this that truth is related to some of the most important things in the world.

I. The Presence of God is Associated with the Truth, Psalm 145:13.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth.

Observation: God is truth in His very being. When a person makes the choice to live in such a way that truth is violated - then that person is choosing to close the door on God in his daily life. We must recognize this and choose to open the door to God and all His mercy, grace, power, joy and fulfillment that He has for us.

II. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit is Associated with the Truth, John 16:13,14.

Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth, for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak, and He will shew you things to come. He shall, glorify Me

Observation: The Holy Spirit is called by the very name of "truth". He has come to teach us the truth and to enable us to live a life in harmony with truth. Again the emphasis here is on being a truthful person and having the truth high on the list of our priorities.

III. The Person and Work of the Lord Jesus is Associated with the Truth, John 18:37,38.

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 onto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth My voice. Pilate saith unto Him, What is truth?

Observation: This statement of the Lord Jesus again emphasizes the high regard He had for the truth and how important this must be to us. We recognize how all of His life and work was a witness to the truth. How sad that Pilate did not see this.

IV. The Judgment of God is Associated with the Truth, Romans 2:2.

But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

Observation: There will be a day when all right and wrong will be evaluated. It will be a judgment according to truth. This will be true for the Christian as well as the non-Christian. We must face our responsibility to know and practice the truth. We cannot escape the consequences of our daily life. (See also II These. 2:12)

V. A Good Testimony is Associated with the Truth, II Cor. 4:2.

But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the Word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth, commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Observation: Here the Apostle Paul testifies to the one basis and motivation of his life - the truth. He could explain to people why he lived the way he did and why he held the priorities he did - all by the truth. When we live a selfish life as a pretender, liar, and cheat - we fail to bear a good testimony.

VI. Protection against Satan is Associated with the Truth, Ephesians 6:14.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth and having on the breastplate of righteousness.

Observation: The Roman soldier wore, a wide leather belt that held the rest of the armor in place. This verse reminds us that only the truth will enable us to have the other virtues and victories of the Christian life. To "put on the girdle of truth" is to make a genuine affirmation before God that we will live according to the truth and make this our protection. When we do not wear the armor God has provided for us we are vulnerable to the enemy.

VII. The New Birth is Associated with the Truth, James 1:18.

Of His own will begat He us with the Word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

Observation: Repentance, believing the gospel and receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are the correct responses to the truth God has revealed to us in the Scripture. The relationship of the new birth and truth is why we must carry out the Great Commission.

VIII. Love is Associated with the Truth, I John 3:16-18.

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good and seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and truth.

Observation: The test for true love is found in actions that conform to the truth. We are so prone to state our love or perform an act that is not in harmony with the truth (real need). We must love God according to the truth and love one another like that.

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