

Those Things That Are True

Introduction

- A. Certainty is often the basis of comfort and assurance. However, in order to have certainty, we must know something of truth about the subject under consideration.
- B. A correct evaluation or to know what is true is a most valuable possession. Knowledge, communication, progress, education, science, culture, morality, and success in any field are all dependent on knowing what is true.
- C. The Christian is comforted in knowing that God has revealed Himself to us in the Person of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Scripture.

I. God is True, I Thessalonians 1:9.

For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the Living and True God.

Observation: Here the Apostle Paul is giving the testimony that he had heard of the people at Thessalonica. Their profession to be genuine believers was backed up by their life. In speaking of God as "true" Paul is emphasizing the fact that God does exist and that He can be trusted. This is said in contrast to the idols that these folk had once trusted.

II. The Lord Jesus Christ is True, John 6:32,33.

Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven, but My Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is He which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

Observation: The word "true" is used many times of the Lord Jesus and His work. This is a reminder that He is not only the "true God" but as the "bread of God" He is the source of our most basic need. He came to make it possible for us who are spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1) to have spiritual life (John 10:28). Since He is this all our needs are met in Him (Eph. 1:3; II Peter 1:3).

III. The Holy Spirit is True, 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: In describing the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth, the Lord Jesus explained the work He was to do. The great purpose of His coming to indwell the believer is to glorify Jesus Christ by teaching the Christian and enabling us to practice the truth in our daily life. What a great Helper (Comforter) we have.

IV. The Word of God is True, II Samuel, 7:28; John 17:17.

And now, O Lord God, Thou art that God, and Thy words be true, and Thou hast promised this goodness unto Thy servant.

Sanctify them through Thy truth, Thy Word is truth.

Observation: These verses refer to the Bible. In the first passage David is referring to the promises God made to him concerning the future how the Messiah would come through his lineage. In the second passage the Lord Jesus, in His prayer in Gethsemane, is asking the Father to sanctify us through the Word of God. God's Word is true and can be trusted.

V. There is a True Grace, I Peter 5:12.

By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.

Observation: Grace has been explained as "unmerited favor" and as "the love of God in action toward sinful men". When Peter spoke of the grace of God as "true" he was contrasting it with all the false hopes that have characterized the human race. Jesus Christ came as our Representative and through His work a provision (grace) has been made for us. This grace is not doubtful nor weak.

VI. There are True Worshippers, John 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.

Observation: When the Lord Jesus was upon earth there was the controversy as to who were the true believers. The controversy continues today. The Lord Jesus settled it once for all when He said that the true worshipper was one who worshipped in "spirit" (personal involvement in contrast to mere formalism) and in "truth" (in harmony with the revelation of God). This is the only standard and each of us must hold it alongside of our own life.

VII. There is a True Heart Attitude, Hebrews 10:22.

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Observation: The heart attitude described in this verse refers to a person who is honest with God and willing to live up to the truth as it is known. We do not have to be perfect to have audience and acceptance with God, but we must be honest about living out the truth.

VIII. There are True Riches, Luke 16:10,11.

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon (riches), who will commit to your trust the true riches?

Observation: Faithfulness must characterize the true steward. The Lord Jesus concluded this parable by referring to correct priorities.