

SCRIPTURE READING:

John 18:28-40

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28 *Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness they did not enter the palace, because they wanted to be able to eat the Passover.*

29 *So Pilate came out to them and asked, “What charges are you bringing against this man?”*

30 *“If he were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed him over to you.”*

John 18:28-40

31 Pilate said, *“Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” “But we have no right to execute anyone,” they objected.*

32 *This took place to fulfill what Jesus had said about the kind of death he was going to die.*

33 *Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”*

John 18:28-40

34 *“Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”*

35 *“Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”*

36 *Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”*

John 18:28-40

37 *“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”*

38 *“What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him.”*

John 18:28-40

39 *But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want **me** to release ‘the king of the Jews’?”*

40 *They shouted back, “No, not **him**! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.*

THE TRUTH



1. The Perception of Truth

2. The Power of Truth

3. The Person of Truth

Two men with opposing agenda:

- Pilate
- Jesus



I. THE PERCEPTION OF TRUTH v. 37

Pilate: there is no absolute truth.

We are living in a day when almost no one believes in absolute truth.

Many Christians think truth is relative.

They believe that what is true for one person may not be true for another.

There is an absolute truth.

Truth means, *“That which is accurate or true in any matter under consideration.*

It is the opposite of that which is feigned, fictitious or false.”

Truth is something that is always true.

Truth can be known.

It is a task made easier by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

The Spirit of God is the ***“Spirit of Truth”***.

John 14:17 *the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

John 15:26 *“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me.*

John 16:13 is especially important, *“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”*

The Holy Ghost will reveal the things of God to us, thus teaching us the truth.

Believers are in a far better position to learn the truth because of the Spirit of Truth Who lives within us.

The world has a spirit within them which blinds them to the truth.

2 Corinthians 4:4 *“The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”*

1 Corinthians 2:14 *“The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.”*

Ephesians 2:1-3 *“As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.”*

There is such a thing as truth, regardless of what society says about it.

This truth can be perceived and it can be known.

II. THE POWER OF TRUTH v. 37b

Truth has power.

Truth, when it is perceived, touches the hearts of God's elect and draws them to Him.

John 3:21 *“But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.”*



THE POWER

OF

TRUTH

1. The Truth Has the Power to Liberate.

John 8:32 *“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

When Jesus said this, He was telling His hearers that the truth had the power to deliver them from their bondage to sin and the Law.

When you come to know the truth, you come to know something that sets the captives free, opens blinded eyes, heals broken hearts, transforms shattered and ruined lives and fills men with the love of God, the peace of God and the joy of God.

2. The Truth Has the Power to Separate.

John 17:17 *“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”*

In this passage Jesus is praying for His disciples, and for us too.

He asks the Father to *“sanctify them through thy truth...”*

The word “**sanctify**” means *“to render something holy; to dedicate or consecrate something to God.”*

Jesus says that the truth of God has the power to cleanse us and make us more like our heavenly Father.

When you yield yourself to the truth of God’s Word, and walk as the Spirit directs you, you will find your life becoming cleaner and more pleasing to God.

Ephesians 5:6 *“Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient.”*

John 15:7 *“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.”*

3. The Truth Has the Power to Invigorate.

John 4:24 *“God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”*

Jesus tells the woman at the well that the truth will make you want to worship.

- **Real worship is us, acknowledging Him to be our everything.**
- **Real worship arises out of a heart that had been saturated with His truth.**
- **Real worship comes about when the Holy Spirit takes the truth of God and makes it clear to us.**

III.THE PERSON OF TRUTH v. 38

The Holy Spirit led John to write it plainly for us.

Where is the Truth:

1. The Scripture Is Truth.

John 17:17 *“...your word is truth.”*

2 Timothy. 3:16, *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,”*

The Bible is the Word of God.

It is inspired.

It is truth, without any admixture of error.

It can be believed for it is forever settled in glory,

Isaiah 40:8 *“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”*

Psalms 119:89 *“Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.”*

2. The Savior Is Truth.

John 14:6 *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”*

Jesus was and is the embodiment of truth.

John 1:14, 17. *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Jesus believed in absolute truth.

He believed in absolute truth so strongly that He came to this world, lived and died to bear witness to that truth.

When we comprehend Who Jesus is, what He has done for us and what He is doing, it will leave us at His feet in humble, simple worship of Him.

Jesus and Jesus alone, is **“the way the truth and the life!”**
Jesus and Jesus alone, is the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world.

Jesus and Jesus alone, is the truth.

Jesus alone is the door onto the narrow way that leads to life everlasting.

Acts 4: 12 *“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”*

1 John 5: 12 *“Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.”*

CONCLUSION:

What is truth? It is the difference between night and day. It is the difference between in and out. It is the difference between black and white. It is the difference between saved and lost!

What is truth? The Bible is truth! Jesus Christ is truth!
And, if you accept those as truth in your life, you have a standard for living and a reason to life. But, if you reject them as your standard, then you have no absolutes and can do as you please.

However, it does not change the fact that the Bible is still true and Jesus is still the only way to God.

So, the things of God are true whether we accept them or not!