RIGHT AND WRONG RELATIONSHIPS TO TRUTH

John 8:32; III John 4

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. I cannot think of a more important lesson than the one we are going to study.
2. Our soul’s salvation depends on our right relationship to truth.
3. Many seem not to understand this.
4. Nothing is more important than TRUTH.
   (1) Our text, John 8:32; Prov. 23:23
   (2) Error will only further enslave the soul.
5. There is no SUBSTITUTE for TRUTH.
   (1) Nothing else is "just as good as truth".
6. TRUTH is always CONSISTENT.
   (1) It is never out of harmony with TRUTH.
   (2) There is no contradiction in TRUTH.
7. TRUTH is always NARROW.

II. RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS TO TRUTH
1. We must RIGHTLY DIVIDE it -- II Tim. 2:15
   (1) It takes much study to do this.
   (2) Must divide the Old Testament from the New Testament.
   (3) What the individual can do, from what the church can do.
   (4) What applies to the alien, and what applies to the Christian.
2. We must KNOW the TRUTH -- John 8:32
   (1) Paul to the Ephesians -- Eph. 5:17
   (2) The Hebrews were rebuked for not knowing -- Heb. 5:12 - 14
   (3) Paul to the Corinthians -- I Cor. 3:1 - 2
   (4) This is the reason every Christian should attend every service.
3. We must LOVE the TRUTH -- II Thess. 2:10
   (1) We must love the TRUTH more than our family -- Matt. 10:35 - 37
   (2) More than life -- Rev. 2:10; Matt. 10:28
(3) We must be willing to give up anything that stands in the way of our having the TRUTH --
Matt. 13: 45 - 46; 5: 29, 30

4. We must BELIEVE the TRUTH -- II Thess. 2:12
   (1) Without faith we cannot please God -- Heb. 11:6
   (2) We must believe all the TRUTH.

5. We must OBEY the TRUTH -- I Pet. 1:22
   (1) Doers of the Word -- James 1:22; Matt. 7:21

6. We must HELP the TRUTH -- III John 8
   (1) Support it with our money -- Phil. 1:5; 4: 14 - 17; I Cor. 9: 4 - 14
   (2) Support it with our presence -- Heb. 10: 25
   (3) Defend it -- Phil. 1:17
   (4) Support it by the way we live -- Phil. 1:27

II. WRONG RELATIONSHIPS TO TRUTH

1. "Hinder the truth in unrighteousness" (ASV) -- Rom. 1:18
   (1) Members of the church often hinder the TRUTH by their unrighteousness -- Matt. 23:13
   (2) They profess to be friends of God, and then hinder Him in what He is seeking to do for man.

2. Exchange the TRUTH of God for a lie -- Rom. 1:25
   (1) This is what one does when he turns from God to human wisdom -- I Cor. 1:21; I Tim. 4:4

3. Resist the TRUTH -- II Tim. 3:8
   (1) The Jews in Acts 7: 51 - 60
   (2) Many today resist the TRUTH.

4. Turn away ears from the TRUTH -- II Tim. 4:4

5. Speak evil of the TRUTH -- II Pet. 2:2

6. Hinder others that they obey not the TRUTH -- Gal. 5:7
   (1) Acts 13: 8 - 10

Preached at Grandview, KY 1968; Fountain Run 1969; Evansville, Indiana 1969; Bummett, Corbin, KY 1969; Danville, KY 1969;