

STAYING IN LINE WITH TRUTH

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Introduction

1. Jesus said, *“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* – John 8:32.
2. David said, *“Thou has redeemed me, O Lord God of truth”* –Psa. 31:5.
3. John said he rejoiced greatly when he found people walking in truth – 2 John 4; 3 John 4.
4. Men and women are to walk in truth (the light) to have fellowship with God – I John 1: 6 – 7.
5. The wise man of Old said, *“Buy the truth, and sell it not”* – Prov. 23:23.
6. The majority of men want to be right if it does not cost too much.
7. To have the truth, one must pay a HIGH PRICE – Matt. 13: 45 – 46; Phil. 3: 7 – 8.
8. Many are in error because it is easier and cheaper in this life to go with error than to stay with the truth. . .

I. THE TRUTH OF GOD PIERCES MEN TO THEIR HEARTS, AND THAT HURTS.

- a. The truth of the gospel pricked their hearts on Pentecost – Acts 2:37.
- b. Stephen’s sermon cut to the heart – Acts 7:54.
- c. On Pentecost 3,000, who were pricked to the heart, obeyed the truth – Acts 2:41.
- d. Those who were cut to the heart by Stephen’s sermon became angry and killed him – Acts 7: 54 – 60.
- e. Many today become angry and fight back when they hear the truth.
- f. What is your attitude toward truth? – II Cor. 2: 15 – 16.

II. THE TEST OF A MAN IS STAYING WITH TRUTH WHEN IT HURTS

- a. 3,000 on Pentecost did – Acts 2: 41.
- b. Paul did – Acts 9: 5 – 6; Acts 22:16; Phil. 3: 7 – 8.
- c. When a man will stay with truth, when truth causes him to give his pleasure up and depart with his money, this man loves the truth – Matt. 5: 27 – 30.
- d. When a man will give up his family to stay with truth, this man loves the truth – Matt. 10: 34 – 37.
- e. When issues arise over false doctrine, many go with error – the man who stands for truth loves truth – II Thess. 2:10.

III. TRUTH MAKES STRONG MEN, NOT COWARDS.

- a. 2 Tim. 1:7 – *“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”*
- b. Eph. 3:16 – 17; Rom. 10:17.
- c. I Cor. 16:13 – *“Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.”*
- d. The gospel gives men courage in the face of trials and great dangers – Col. 3:16.
- e. A man full of truth is a pillar of strength amidst all dangers – Eph. 6: 10 – 17.
- f. It is sin that makes men cowards.

IV. TRUTH MAKES ENEMIES.

- a. *“Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?”* – Gal. 4:16.
- b. Jesus said they wanted to kill Him because He told them the truth – John 8:40.
- c. Herodias had Herod kill John because she despised the truth – Matt. 14:1 – 2; Mk. 6: 17 – 29; Mk. 6:19.

- d. Truth makes enemies today.
 - i. People today don't want their sins condemned.
 - ii. But sin MUST be rebuked – 2 Tim. 4: 2 – 4; Acts 17:30; Luke 13:5.
- V. WHAT PLACE SHOULD TRUTH HAVE IN OUR HEARTS?**
- a. An “inside” place – Col. 3:16; Psa. 119:11.
 - b. A place of reverence – Psa. 119: 161 – *“But my heart standeth in awe of thy word”*.
 - c. A place of love – Psa. 119:97 – *“O how love I Thy law”*; 2 Thess. 2: 16.
 - d. A place of Authority – John 12:48; Matt. 28:18.
 - e. A Permanent place – John 15:7; Prov. 23:23
- VI. WE MUST BUY THE TRUTH AT ANY PRICE AND SELL IT AT NO PRICE.**
- a. Prov. 23:23; Psa. 146:6
 - b. You cannot be saved without the truth:
 - i. I Pet. 1:22
 - ii. Rom. 2: 8
 - iii. John 8:32
 - iv. John 17:17
 - v. Rom. 1:16
 - c. Some things people sell the truth for:
 - i. For a wife or husband.
 - ii. For a livelihood.
 - iii. To be thought well of by the world.
 - iv. To gratify a friend.
 - v. For the pleasure of sin.
 - vi. For mere wantonness.

CONCLUSION

1. Friend, are you staying in line with the truth?
2. Have you obeyed the truth???

Preached at Underwood Hts. 1983; Hebron Lane 1991