

## Sermon #6

# Truth

God is amazing, wonderful, awesome, fantastic, exhilarating and wondrous; and God's word is truth.

Therefore, truth is also amazing, wonderful, awesome, fantastic, exhilarating and wondrous.

But to a darkened and fearful mind, truth looks frightening.

Truth, by its very nature, exposes and obliterates lies, deception, delusions and untruths.

A mind that is full of false things perceives truth as its enemy.

The darkened mind will resist, avoid, deny and reject the truth, reinforcing the darkness and spiraling downward into a bottomless pit.

There is only one way out of this vicious, life-robbing cycle: repentance and faith.

Repentance is choosing truth over lies and God's way over your own way.

Faith is believing that God is true, His word is true, and His way is best, even when it looks like it will ruin your life.

Jesus said to the Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. <sup>32</sup>And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 8:31

He also said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

John 14:6

Pontius Pilate, when he was questioning Jesus, asked "What is truth?" The Bible indicates that Jesus did not answer Pilate, at least not verbally.

Perhaps that is because the Truth was standing right in front of him,  
and Pilate was blind to the obvious.

That is the way it is with us.

Truth is right in front of us and testifying within us  
if we will only choose to believe it.

God is truth. Jesus Christ is truth. The Holy Spirit is the spirit of truth,  
given to guide us into all truth.

Truth is here, now. It is perfectly true.

It is crucial that we understand the difference between truth,  
testimony and wisdom.

**Truth** is, by definition, absolutely true and pure in itself.

**Testimony** is a witness' understanding and experience of truth,  
and it is colored by that person's feelings, fears, opinions,  
prejudices, biases, ignorance and other human traits.

**Wisdom** is the knowledge of good and evil,  
and the ability to discern between the two.

Those who know truth are called to testify to others about it.  
Those who hear human testimony are called to use wisdom  
to discern what is true and what is not.

**Truth** is the goal;

**Testimony** is a means to the goal;

**Wisdom** is the judge and jury.

A person who looks to Jesus Christ as his only witness no longer needs  
human testimony or wisdom, for Jesus has already been judged by  
God as the perfect and true witness.

His wisdom is pure and His testimony is true.

Jesus Christ continues to testify to us today through the Counselor,  
who is the Holy Spirit sent to us by God to reunite us with Him in  
spirit and truth.

Jesus said that He did not accept human testimony.

We should not either.

Human testimony is for those who have not yet accepted Christ and who are not receiving His perfect testimony and wisdom through the Holy Spirit.

Christ fulfills and exceeds all human testimony and wisdom, including the testimonies of Moses, David and Paul, and the wisdom of Solomon, who was supposedly the wisest man and greatest king who ever lived.

Christ also fulfills and exceeds **my** testimony.

If you are looking to me instead of to Him for truth, you are settling for corruption when you could have perfection.

Human religious systems, including our own, are all based on human wisdom and testimony, which are subject to error.

That is why there are so many different churches and groups.

But the true church of God is founded and built on truth.

It is perfect, pure and free.

It is not corrupted and cannot be corrupted.

Nothing impure can enter it: no lie, deception or harmful thing.

It is ruled by God and Christ, and it is eternal.

It can not be harnessed by a religious organization or earthly church.

It is illustrated symbolically in Revelation as the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, the Bride of the Lamb.

The true church of God is the forgiven soul who loves and is faithful to God.

Every soul has this potential; every soul is invited.

God establishes His Bride—the forgiven soul who loves Him—in truth.

He loves and cherishes her, and gives her all He has and is.

If you want to be the church of God,  
you must receive and believe the truth.

Above all human testimony.

Above all human wisdom, laws and doctrines.

And certainly above all lies, deceptions and false philosophies.

“I, the Lord, am righteous and just, pure and true.

I know all and made all.

I see things you do not see.

I know things you do not know.

If you want to know, and you want to see, then come to Me.

Ask and seek, and I will teach you Myself. I AM truth.

Look for Me and you will find Me, right in front of your face.

Listen to Me and you will hear truth,

through the still, small voice of My Spirit within.

Line up your voice and thoughts with My voice and thoughts,

and you will see amazing things,

far greater and better than you can even conceive right now.

Look to Me. I love you.

I want you to have the best.

The best is truth.”

## Truth and Its Relatives

Truth	Testimony	Wisdom	Untruth
What is and will be; what God says; The language of God.	What a witness says that he has seen and heard.	The knowledge of good and evil, and the ability to discern between them.	What isn't and won't be; The language of Satan.
The Word of God.	The word of a witness	The word of a judge	The word of a deceiver
Fire that consumes lies, purifies the soul and sets the believer free	Information that challenges hearers to believe or not	Judgment that praises good and condemns evil	Thief that comes to kill, steal and destroy
Spirit of Truth <i>--the river of the water of life (Rev. 22:1)</i>	True witness: Jesus <i>--the tree of life (Rev. 22:2)</i>	True wisdom: the mind of Christ <i>--rider on the white horse (Rev. 19:11-16)</i>	Lies: Untrue, vain; <i>--blasphemies and blasphemous names (Rev. 13:1-6)</i>
The uncorrupted and pure part of a soul <i>--virgins (Rev. 14:1-5)</i>	False witnesses: accusers of Jesus <i>--the beast from the earth (Rev. 13:11-18)</i>	Corrupted wisdom: the mind of Solomon <i>--beast from the sea (Rev. 13:1-10)</i>	self-exaltation: Satan, the father of lies <i>--fiery red dragon (Rev. 12)</i>
Truth cannot be corrupted <i>--virgins (Rev. 14:1-5)</i>	When testimony is corrupted by lies and self-exaltation, it perverts justice. <i>--what the beast does (Rev. 13:11-18)</i>	When wisdom is corrupted with lies and self-exaltation, it opposes God and truth <i>--7 heads on the beast (Rev. 12, 13, 17)</i>	When self-exaltation mixes lies in with wisdom and law, it impresses all who don't stand firm in truth. <i>--the success of the beasts (Rev. 13)</i>
Obedied truth (love) fulfills of the law <i>--the Lamb of God (Rev. 5, 22)</i>	Testimony works with the law to convict, acquit or justify <i>--(Rev. 13:11-18)</i>	Wisdom interprets and applies the law. <i>--10 horns on the beast (Rev. 12, 13)</i>	Untruth misinterprets and misapplies the law <i>--Rev. 11:17; 13:11-18</i>

Note: all *italicized* words are references to symbolism in the book of Revelation

**Notes:**