

Pastor B. Kirkland

THE TRUTH

We can deny the truth, ridicule it, mock it, ignore it, and attack it; however, when all is said and done, truth is truth. The dictionary says truth is "that which is accordance with fact."

Facts are indisputable.

Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth" (John 8:32).

Lifting Up The STANDARD

"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19).

Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

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"Ye Shall Know The Truth."

If We Can't Know The Truth, All The Verses Below Are Impossible To Obey

Joshua 24:14

"Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in **truth**."

First Kings 2:4

"Walk before me in truth."

Proverbs 23:23

"Buy the **truth**, and sell it not."

First Timothy 2:4

"Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the **truth**."

First Peter 1:22

"Ye have purified your souls in obeying the **truth**."

Second Peter 1:12

"Be established in the present **truth**."

Third John 1:3

"Thou walkest in the **truth**."

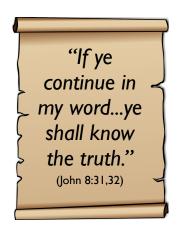
Third John 1:8

"That we might be fellowhelpers to the truth."



Billy Sunday

"The backslider likes the preaching that wouldn't hit the side of a house, while the real disciple is delighted when the truth brings him to his knees."



We could look at many other verses that prove that we are not only able to "know the truth," we are required to know it in order to live the way the Bible commands us to live.

Did Jesus Lie Or Are We Mixed Up?

Jesus promised, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into **all truth**."

God does not have two truths about CCM music, Calvinism, repentance, separation, divorce, and all the other issues we disagree on. Either Jesus didn't know what He was talking about, or we are too carnal to agree on the truth. Personally, I have no problem figuring it out. We are too carnal to have the unity that Christ prayed for in John chapter seventeen.

We will begin a series of articles today that will upset some people; however, there is no doubt we are past time when some people need to be upset. To be upset is to be disturbed about something and it is certainly time we were disturbed about our so-called fundamentalism. "It is high time to awake out of sleep" (Romans 13:11). Our "fundamentalism" is a mess, and only the Christian who has his head buried in the sand will refuse to realize it.

God's Conditions To Knowing The Truth John 8:31,32,

"Then said Jesus... <u>If ye continue</u> (Translated "abide" sixty-one times) <u>in</u> <u>my word</u>, then are ye my disciples (learners) indeed; And <u>ye shall</u> <u>know the truth</u>, and the truth shall make you free."

Second Timothy 2:15,

"**Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Study is "the devotion of time and attention to acquiring knowledge concerning a subject." The word **workman** in the verse above has been translated "labourer" ten times. Jesus said "the labourers are few" (Matthew 9:37).

As we <u>labour</u> in the Word concerning the issues we face today, we need to pray "Lead me in thy truth, and teach me" (Psalm 25:5). It is then, and only then, that we can expect the Holy Spirit to "guide" us into "all truth."

If we are serious about studying the Word of God concerning our present day issues, and *seriously* praying for Holy Spirit guidance, we will get the truth. It is a promise from our Lord. Jesus said the Holy Spirit will guide us "into <u>all</u> truth."

"Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding" (Proverbs 23:23).



A.W. Tozer

"To expose our hearts to truth and consistently refuse or neglect to obey the impulses it arouses is to stymie the motions of life within us and, if persisted in, to grieve the Holy Spirit into silence."



D.L. Moody

"God never made a promise that was too good to be true."

Study The Bible FIRST!





Daily Internet Fifteen Minute Broadcast On Our Website

The Word of the Lord is right! Psalm 33:4,

"For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth"

The Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth. John 16:13,

"The Spirit of truth...will guide you into all truth."

Good Men Going Different Directions???

Since we have been promised by the Lord Himself that the Holy Spirit will guide us into "all truth" why are good men going different directions concerning the issues of our day?

My Personal Experience

There is nobody more guilty of proof texting than I was during the first half of my service for the Lord. I learned what I learned from my heroes in the faith, and then found all kinds of Scriptures I took out of context to support my position.

My book shelves were lined with Bible commentaries, and rather than studying to show myself approved unto God, and being "a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing **the word** of truth," I usually grabbed one of my commentaries and read what some man had written about the Bible.

I was influenced in my early Christian life to get a Scofield Bible. Over the years, I have worn out several of them; however, in my early days, I swallowed everything Scofield wrote rather than searching "the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

I was greatly influenced in the early days of my ministry by Jack Hyles, Jerry Falwell, Jack VanImpe, and other "fundamentalists." At that time, my problem was that if one of my heroes said it, I believed it. Following their influence about any issues or about my philosophy of ministry was much easier than labouring in the Scriptures, and so there I was a, puppet of men who turned out to be compromisers.

I decided to see what Bill Gothard had to offer. Well, at least there I was getting some Bible teaching; however, it didn't take too long to realize he was teaching some things that did not line up with the Scriptures.

I had learned what all these men believed, now it was time to begin to seriously study the Bible for myself. I began with a specific subject and compared Scripture with Scripture, rather than comparing commentaries with commentaries. (NOTE: Don't throw out the commentaries, they can be helpful but study the Bible FIRST!)



Harry Ironside

"Error is like leaven of which we read, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump."

Truth mixed with error is equivalent to all error, except that it is more innocent looking and, therefore, more dangerous.

God hates such a mixture!

Any error, or any truthand-error mixture, calls for definite exposure and repudiation.

To condone such is to be unfaithful to God and His Word and treacherous to imperiled souls for whom Christ died."



It took about five years to determined what I believed about subjects such as church philosophy of ministry, missions, Christian schools, etc. etc. I purchased a Bible with no footnotes. I set my alarm at 4 A.M., and prayed that "the Spirit of truth"...would guide me "into all truth."

A few years ago we had an issue with Calvinism at our church. Over the years I had read what my heroes believed about the subject, now it was time to study the Scriptures. After several hundred hours of serious study on the subject, I concluded that Calvinism is a blatant attack on the character of God.

When I began each specific study I asked myself the following questions.

- I. What do I believe about this issue?
 - a. I wrote it down on my pad.
- 2. Is there any chance I might be wrong?
 - a. If I can't admit I might be wrong, I am not teachable.
- 3. Am I willing to admit I am wrong if the Holy Spirit shows me I was wrong?
 - a. I wrote my answer down on my pad.
- 4. Do I care more about the truth than what my friends will think?
 - a. I wrote my answer down on my pad.

The Bible says... "Buy the truth, and sell it not" (Proverbs 23:23).

The truth is very expensive.

It will cost you life-long friends.

If you are not willing to pay the price don't get involved in searching for the truth, and if you are not willing to pay the price please keep your opinions about the issues to yourself.

Our young people need to know the truth, not your opinions.



"If ye continue in my <u>word</u>...ye shall <u>know the truth</u>." (John 8:31,31)

"The Spirit of truth...will guide you into <u>all truth."</u> (John 16:13)

"For the <u>word</u> of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in <u>truth</u>." (Psalm 33:4)

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God." (First John 4:1)





A.W. Tozer

"Whatever it may be in our Christian experience that originates outside of Scriptures should, for that very reason, be suspect until it can be shown to be in accord with them."