

The Gift that Makes Us Free

The Gifts of God - Week 7 (12-7-22)

John 8:30-32

I. Continue in the Truth

A. The truth will change you

1. The truth will change you. As long as you don't exchange it for a lie.

B. Reinforcing truth

C. Continuing in the truth always leads to obedience/submission to the truth

II. Filter with the Truth

A. An "open mind" is a cesspool of thought!

1. 2 Corin. 10:5

B. With great truth comes great responsibility

1. You are responsible for the truth that you know.

2. Heb. 10:26

- a) If we understand and receive a truth but intentionally refuse to submit to it, then we must pay the full consequences of that truth.

- (1) The same as deliberately breaking the law in broad daylight right in front of the judge!

- b) John 15:22

- (1) If all of creation isn't enough to convince us of God, Jesus left us without any excuse what soever. Truth Himself removed any option for cloaking our sin.

- (a) If we choose to remain submitted to the lie it is not because we didn't know, but rather because we didn't want to be changed by the truth!

III. Connection through the Truth

A. Truth is the only reality. A lie is only a distorted derivative of the truth.

1. Truth is the basis for all communication

- a) Truth creates strong communication and therefore strong connection.

- (1) Lies cause the communication process to fall apart

- (2) The moment that Adam and Eve accepted the lie that God had lied there was an instant disconnection between them and God.

B. John 4:23 - We are to worship God in spirit and in truth.

1. God speaks to us Spirit-to-spirit

2. Worship is based on truth but what happens to our worship when we convince ourselves of a lie.

- a) Romans 1:24 - 25

- (1) Exchanged the truth of God for a lie

- (2) The way that we live is our worship based on what we choose to believe.

- (a) Our belief system connects us so deeply to what we are believing that it effects everything we do (worship).

- (3) Romans 1:29-32 = the results of turning from the truth (God)
- (4) Romans 2:1 - When there is no longer any moral absolutes, no one can judge anyone else. To do so is to condemn yourself!
 - (a) Romans 2:2 - No matter what man deems morally acceptable, we know that in the end God will judge based on the truth and there is nothing that anyone can say or do about it.
 - (b) A lie holds no power over the truth, and the truth doesn't need to defend itself.
- 3. Grace and truth came by Jesus (John 1:17), and He sent the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth (John 14:17), in order to lead us into all truth (John 16:13).
 - a)
- C. "...The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. But there are some of you that believe not..." John 6:63-64

A.W. Tozer: "Truth in Scripture is more than a fact. A fact may be detached, impersonal, cold and totally disassociated from life. Truth, on the other hand, is warm, living, and spiritual.... At what point, then, does a theological fact become for the one that holds it a life-giving truth? *At that point where obedience begins....* Truth that is not experienced is no better than error, and may be fully as dangerous. The scribes who sat in Moses' seat were not the victims of error; they were the victims of their failure to experience the truth they taught."