

Searching the Scriptures / 4 / The Bible Is Truth / Part 4

Today we want to talk about the fact that the Bible is Truth – the only Truth. Pilate, the Roman governor of Israel, asked the Lord Jesus Christ during His trial, “*What is truth?*” (John 18:38). Mankind has been asking that same question throughout time.

The Bible gives us the answer to that very important question in John 17:17, “*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*” The Word of God is the only source of absolute Truth. God declares in John 14:6, “*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” In fact, Jesus tells us in John 8:32, “*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” What is it that enslaves us, so that we need to be “free”?

The Jews of Jesus’ day responded by asking Him a similar question in John 8:33, “*... We be Abraham’s seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, ye shall be made free?*” He continued to explain that they were in bondage to their own sin; but in spite of this, they remained incapable of seeing their wretched spiritual condition. John 8:34 states, “*Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*”

God saves His people through the truth of His Word, as we read in Jam 1:18, “*Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.*” The word “begat” means to be “brought forth”, or to be spiritually “born from above”. When that happens, the new believer goes from being a slave of sin to being a slave of righteousness, or a slave (servant) of Jesus Christ.

The Old Testament Jews also received the Law – God’s Truth – and yet we find that many of them were not saved, as we read in Heb 3:15-19, “*While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. In fact, all those who were 20 years of age and under perished in the wilderness.*”

God gives His children a love and a hunger for His Word, as we find in Mat 4:4, “*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeded out of the mouth of God.*” We look to the Bible to find our delight and spiritual nourishment. Psa 1:2 says of the man that is blessed, “*But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*”

True Christians become very involved with God’s Truth, the Bible. The Scripture says in Psa 119:97-99, “*Oh how love I thy law; it is my meditation all the day. I have more understanding than all my teachers; for thy testimonies are my meditation.*” Because God’s Law, the Bible, is truth, God commands His chosen people to “*study to show thyself approved unto God,*” as we read in 2 Tim 2:15. Christians are to search the Scriptures, and are reminded that Jesus said in John 5:39 that, “*... these [Scriptures] are they which testify of me.*”

Christians are to flee to the Bible in all things as their sole guide and never rely on their own wisdom, insight, or ideas – or those of anyone else. They either read the Bible morning, noon and night or they think about what they know from the Bible throughout the day. This is why Israel was told to bind the Law on their “foreheads”. This symbolized that God’s Word was to be in front of their eyes (on their minds) at all times – in their personal lives, in their marriages, in raising children, in their vocations, in their “*spare time*” activities, in their use of money, in their social relationships – in every area of their lives. Because they use only the Bible, they can say to God, “*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path*” (Psa 119:105).

The Bible must be our sole guide for life and godliness as we read in 2 Pet 1:3, “*According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.*” This means that we can know about God, man, and the world that God has created only by studying the Bible. Since God’s Word is Truth, and the only Truth – it provides the only hope for escaping from our slavery to sin and the penalty we deserve, which is eternal Hell. We also read in Rom 15:4, “*For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.*”

Since faith (which is a synonym for salvation) “*cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God,*” (as we read in Rom 10:17), mankind’s only possible hope of eternal life is revealed in the Bible. Men and women who are being drawn by God to salvation and those who are already saved flee to the Bible, trust the Bible, spend time in the Bible – the whole Bible and only the Bible.

May God give us grace to hunger and thirst after God’s Word for truth. May we hide God’s Word in our hearts. May we labor in the Scriptures, comparing spiritual with spiritual. May we repent and turn away from any reliance upon ourselves or others to guide any aspect of our lives.