



The Good News

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Truth

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Joseph Addison, a 17th-century poet, author, politician and a man possessed of a great deal more accurate insight into humanity than most, said, “justice is an unassailable fortress, built on the brow of a mountain which cannot be overthrown by the violence of torrents, nor demolished by the force of armies.” It is not difficult at all to replace ‘justice’ with ‘truth’ in the quote and have it retain the same—if not greater—profundity. Truth, whether assailed by those who would attempt to obscure, blur, muddy, cloud or disguise it, whether fought against openly or covertly, stands against all attempts to alter or overturn it or, in some cases, deny its existence. It is not weak in any way, shape or form; it is not dormant at any time; it possesses no partiality of any kind. Its nature is, perhaps most importantly, not determined by humanity in ANY WAY WHATSOEVER. Truth simply IS. There is truth, and there is everything else. Anything said or written that isn’t exactly equal to the truth is not the truth.

This matters to us as humans because the universally constant nature of truth provides us with something that, without which, mankind cannot establish any semblance of order: a point of reference that is forever fixed. How God gives us this is done by defining truth as His Word, His Will, His very nature. His plan of salvation for us goes through His Son, who told us that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and that no one will enter into God except those who do so through Himself, God’s Son. This separates Christ from all others who claim to be or have a means to enter salvation other than Jesus—the same way truth separates itself from everything false: there is only one.

The Bible is the Word of God, and the first verse of John 1 tells us that the Word is indeed God. The words we read are in fact God in His own description to us, his children. Psalms 119:160 shows us the author claiming God’s Word, all of it, is truth. In Daniel 10:21, an angel tells Daniel he will reveal to Daniel what is “inscribed in the writing of truth.” Paul tells the Ephesians in Eph 1: 13 that they were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise in Christ after they had listened to and believed the message of truth—the gospel of salvation. Christ Himself declares God’s Word to be truth when He asks His Father to sanctify the apostles in truth as they go into the world to spread that same truth.

Once established as the truth, the Bible can now (as was intended by God) become an authority for our lives that surpasses any other relatively-associated forms of leadership: government, peer pressure, social/cultural traditions, popular opinion, etc. It is paramount, however, that we approach the Word of God as one seeking the truth earnestly and openly, being willing to hear what it tells us without prejudice or personal opinions filtering anything out whatsoever. God’s Word as a whole is truth. It is complete and both necessary and sufficient for salvation. As it is complete, it must be taken entirely and we must be willing to adhere to everything it tells us, whatever our opinions or feelings may be on something. He has determined that everything we have been given in the Bible is necessary. To claim otherwise is to claim we know more about God’s plan of salvation than He Himself does.