

## **“AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH”**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Our lesson at this time is entitled, “And ye shall know truth.” These words come from the mouth of Jesus as recorded in John 8:32, which reads in its entirety, “And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” In the previous verses, Jesus often spoke of “knowing.” (1) he spoke of His own knowledge that He came from God and was going to return to Him. v. 14. (2) He declared that the Pharisees did NOT “know” Him or His Father. v. 19. (3) He also spoke of the fact that when He would be “lifted up”, that some would THEN know who He was. v. 28 (4) finally, He declared the words of our text, that some “shall know the truth.” This could refer to fact that they would know the things He alluded to earlier in the chapter, but the allusion to being made **free** reminds us of the “freedom” Jesus gives to us as a RESULT of the truth He brings and offers to the world.

Now let's examine the statement more carefully.

### **1<sup>st</sup>, What IS the “truth” that MAKES MAN FREE?**

- A. Some have strange ideas of what TRUTH really is.
1. Some think truth is whatever it **“means to you”**, without regard to the plain language of the Bible.
    - a. One denominational preacher said, “I believe what I believe.”
    - b. Some say, “I don't care what the passage says, I don't believe it.”
    - c. Someone has said that a lie can go half way around the world before truth can get its pants on.
    - d. It is easier to believe a lie that has been told a thousand times, than the truth that is told once.
    - e. Truth is hard to believe when the mind has been filled with error and false doctrine.
    - f. It is easier to believe a lie that has always been heard, than to believe the truth when it is newly presented.
  2. Some think that since Christ is truth (John 14:6), that we are to follow **Him**, and **not** a book that is written on paper with ink, as some have been known to say, “The New Testament is just paper and ink.”
  3. Some say truth is anything that has been around a long time.
    - a. This would make Satan “truth”, but Jesus said Satan is the father of lies. John 8:44
    - b. Some think Catholicism is true because it has been around for over a thousand years, and is older than Protestantism.
  4. To some, truth is what they **want** to believe, or what their educated “pastor” says, rather than the actual words of the New Testament..
  5. What are some areas where **truth is ignored?**
    - a. It is ignored many times regarding water baptism, by those who believe salvation is by “faith only.”
    - b. It is ignored many times on the matter of divorce and remarriage, by some who have divorced and remarried without the cause of fornication, and they just refuse to accept the Bible.
    - c. Some ignore the fact that God exists, because they are atheists or Muslims. Psa. 14;1
    - d. Some reject the truth about “one church” because they believe in many churches or their denomination.
    - e. Some reject the total authority of the New Testament because have their creeds and human doctrine books.

- B. We find many references to “truth” in connection with God's word.
1. In the Old Testament, such is the case. Psa. 117:12; 119:43, 52
  2. In the New Testament, there are several passages that show that “truth” (when referring to the WAY or the WILL of God that pertains to salvation) is indeed the WORD OF THE LORD—THE GOSPEL.
    - a. Truth came by Jesus. John 1:17
    - b. Truth describes Jesus Himself. John 14:6
    - c. Truth can be known. John 8:32; Heb. 10:26
    - d. Truth is that which the SPIRIT reveals through the apostles. John 14:17; 16:13; 1 Cor. 4:37
    - e. Truth is that which “sanctifies”. John 15:3; 17:34
    - f. Truth can be obeyed. Rom. 2:8; 6:117-18; 1 Pet. 1:22-25
    - g. Truth begets through the gospel message. Jas. 1:18; 1 Cor. 4:15
    - h. Truth is that which comes from **heaven**, and not from **men**. Matt. 21:23-26
    - i. Truth is the “word of truth.” Jas. 1:18
    - j. Truth is the **WORD OF GOD**. Jn. 17:17; cf John 8:31-32

## II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, what does Jesus SAY ABOUT TRUTH?

- A. First, Jesus said truth **can be known**. John 8:32
1. Some say we can't know the truth, so they either stop studying it, or just believe something men have written.
    - a. When Jesus was tempted, 3 times He referred to what is “written.”
    - b. Many many times Jesus would say to His audience, “it is written.”
    - c. Once when Jesus was in the synagogue, He was given the book of Isaiah, and turned to book and found the passage where something was “written”. Luke 10:26
  2. We **can** know all that God wants us to know. Deut. 29:29
- B. Second, Jesus said truth **will make us free**. John 8:32
1. We are freed from the sins of the past because we are forgiven.
  2. We are freed from the bondage of sin when we choose to in obeying the truth of the gospel.
  3. We are freed from the eternal consequences of sin because we are no longer serving it.

### CONCLUSION

- i. To reject the written WORD of Christ is to reject Christ Himself. John 12:48; 2 John 9
  - A. The doctrine or teaching Christ is limited to what He **said**. Matt. 7:24
  - B. The scripture (what Jesus said personally and what the apostles were inspired to write) is **ALL** we need to guide us to heaven. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3
- II. Won't you OBEY the truth, right now, and let it be your guide to heaven?

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