

A PASSION FOR TRUTH
I Pet. 1:22-25

Intro.

- I. Jesus before Pilate. “Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”
 - a. Jesus came to bear witness unto the truth.
 - b. Everyone that is of the truth heareth my voice. What does it mean to be “of the truth?”
 - c. The phrase refers to those who walk in truth. They listen to Jesus and do what he commands/instructs them to do. This is simply another way to define a disciple of Jesus Christ. Matt. 28:18-20.
- II. Pilate immediately asked Jesus, “What is truth?” We want to examine this question and provide a Biblical answer.

Dis.

- I. THE SUBSTANCE OR NATURE OF TRUTH.
 - A. John 17:17, the truth is the word of God. The word of God reveals the reality of God—His Nature and His Instructions—to man. Truth is that which conforms to reality as revealed by God.
 1. We can settle questions about origins by appealing to the truth of God’s Word.
 2. We can settle questions about life after death in the same way.
 3. We can settle questions about the flood and its devastation in the same way—we appeal to the authority of Almighty God by appealing to the Scriptures.
 - B. Characteristics of Truth:
 1. It is obtainable. God’s word is readily available to us and we can know it.
 2. It is Knowable. John 8:32.
 3. It is Absolute. Unchangable. In contrast to relative.
 4. It is Objective. In contrast to subjective.
 5. It is Eternal.
 6. It is living. I Pet. 1:22-25.
 7. It is powerful. Heb. 4:12. II Tim. 3:15. Able to save. Begets a new life. A “seed” has life within it. Under the right conditions, it will grow. The germ of spiritual life is in the Word of God.
 - C. Jesus is the embodiment of truth. John 14:6. He is truth. He speaks the truth always and cannot lie (Titus 1:2). He lives the truth (He is righteous) and no imperfections can be found in Him.
- II. THE POWER OF TRUTH.

- A. Truth is POWERFUL. God's Word is powerful. Isa. 55:10,11. "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Heb. 4:12.
- B. Powerful to convict of sin. John 16:8-14.
- C. Powerful to save. I Pet. 1:22-25.
- D. Powerful to build up. Acts 20:32.
- E. Powerful to put Satan to flight. Matt. 4:1-11. Resist Satan with God's Word. Resist temptation. Psa. 119:11.

III. ATTITUDES AND RESPONSE TO TRUTH.

- A. **Attitude.** "Love of the truth." II Thess. 2:10. Only here in the NT. Written by Paul. Expressed in the negative "received not the love of the truth." What is the alternative? To receive error (a lie). If not truth, then error!
 - 1. A lie damns.
 - 2. Truth liberates, saves. John 8:32.
- B. Do you love the truth?
- C. **Response:** Do the truth! Walk in truth. III John 4.
 - 1. John 3:21. "But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God."
 - 2. To do the truth is to obey Christ and walk in the light.

Conclusion.

Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ! You cannot have one without the other! We taste of God's grace by doing the truth!