

## THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

### I. [John 14:1-7](#) [Psalm 25:4-5](#) [Psalm 51:6](#) [Psalm 145:18-20](#) [John 8:28-32](#)

A. [John 14:1-7](#) (ESV) are Jesus' words to His disciples at the Last Supper. These words are as red as they get and they're chock full with hope and promise: **1** "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. (Last week we talked about what it means to *really* believe.) **2** In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. (Those are among the most comforting words you'll ever read!) **4** And you know the way to where I am going." **5** Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?" (Thomas is just being honest and vulnerable. We might have responded in like manner.) **6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. **7** If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him." (Those were the same audacious and egotistical words we heard last Sunday. How dare Jesus speak with such exclusivity! Unless, of course, He's speaking the truth!)

B. In the famous tale of *the emperor's new clothes*, swindlers posing as tailors convince a fashion-oriented king will be *stylin'* with their invisible attire which can't be seen by fools. So when the naked monarch strolls before the people, most are afraid to tell the king the truth. They don't want to offend their naive leader that he's believed the nonsense about his royal attire. Finally a little boy calls it as he sees it. And all the liars and deceivers are dealt with accordingly...

C. Listen to [Proverbs 27:5-6](#) (NCV) **5** It is better to correct someone openly than to have love and not show it. **6** The slap of a friend can be trusted to help you, but the kisses of an enemy are nothing but lies. (Sometimes truth just comes along and slaps us upside the head! But ultimately that's a good thing...)

D. [Billy Graham](#) used to say: "You can accept the truth, you can reject the truth, but you can't change the truth."

E. Lies and falsehoods vs the truth often remind me of Aesop's Fable, *The Tortoise and the Hare*. Lies and falsehoods are spread, sprint forth and run rampant, brandished with pride, swagger and arrogance. But eventually the tortoise of truth comes along, overtakes the lies and falsehoods, and crosses the finish line victoriously. Truth may come from way behind but in the end it will always win...

F. I heard the late [R.C. Sproul](#) several years ago on the radio talking about truth... To paraphrase Dr. Sproul, the jest of what he said was this: First of all there is The Truth. (The notion there's my truth and your truth is phony-baloney...Go ahead and say gravity doesn't exist, or rain, or sunlight...) Then there is our perception of the truth; that certainly can vary... (e.g. hot or cold) Then there is how we feel about the truth emotionally--our reactions to it... But our perceptions and feeling don't change--the truth.

**G. Billy Graham yet again on Truth:** "Truth is timeless. Truth does not differ from one age to another, from one people to another from geographical location to another...the great all-prevailing Truth stands for time and eternity."

**H. Once upon a time in Kentucky, I was selected as a member of a grand jury. When tasked with choosing a foreman, an elderly woman said, "I nominate this young man next to me!" Quickly adding, "All in favor raise your hands!" All the hands shot up and I was left both speechless and foreman. As each case was brought before us, it was my duty to hold out a Bible, and swear in all the witnesses. I told them to place their left hand on the Bible while raising their right hand and then asked, "Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?" They all said yes... But of course some didn't...**

**I. Listen to a couple Psalms talk about Truth...**

**1) Psalm 25:4-5 (ESV) is an earnest prayer: 4 Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. 5 Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.**

**2) Psalm 51:6 (ESV) is from David's prayer of repentance: 6 Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

**3) Psalm 145:18-20 (ESV) is full of promise, hope, and warning: 18 The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him; He also hears their cry and saves them. 20 The LORD preserves all who love Him, but all the wicked He will destroy.**

**J. So bear with me as I share the truth of the Gospel one more time: *The truth is*, we were born under the wrath of God due to our sin... *The truth is*, despite that sin and God's wrath against us, He still loved us... *The truth is*, His holiness and righteousness, juxtaposed with our sinfulness, demanded justice... *The truth is*, His love for the likes of us--rebellious sinners and hostile enemies--prompted Him to send His One and Only Son (*God the Son!*) to come to earth, to live a perfect righteous life, to represent and express the very heart of God the Father, and to shamefully die on a cross for our sins... *The truth is*, Jesus absorbed the wrath of God that was meant for us... *The truth is*, He died, was buried, but on the third day He rose from the dead, demonstrating that His sacrifice for us was found acceptable... *The truth is*, by faith in His blood shed for us, we have been justified, declared not guilty, reconciled, redeemed, adopted, and imputed with His righteous record and right standing before God the Father Almighty... *The truth is*, when His power delivers the reality of this Good News into your core being, new birth occurs, you are made alive, regenerated, transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of Light. *The truth is*, the Holy Spirit (*God the Spirit!*) has come to dwell inside you... *The truth is*, you will live forevermore in the blissful presence of our glorious God! Why would anyone not surrender everything to embrace this truth with all their hearts!**

**K. So whether the truth of this Gospel comes along slaps you upside the head or merely nudges your heart, prompting you to kneel before the Lord our Maker, makes little difference to me. But I urge you not to reject or neglect or dismiss this Good News Truth**

because you're not hearing it by accident. You're hearing it because God loves you! He truly loves you!

**L. How about hearing from Jesus once again before we close... John 8:28-32 (ESV) takes us home: 28** *So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, (When you have crucified Me on the cross!) then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing on My own authority, but speak just as the Father taught Me. (He could easily have said: 'My Father is about to make Me sin, Who's known no sin, to be sin for you, so that in Me, you might become the righteousness of God.')* **29** *And He who sent Me is with Me. He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."* (**The righteous life I live, I live for My Father and likewise for you who are unrighteous. So my righteousness will one day be yours!**) **30** *As He was saying these things, many believed in Him. (I pray all of you would believe as well!)* **31** *So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, (And by extension He says to all of us...)* "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, **32** and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (**Oh how I pray you would know the truth and be set free from sin and death and hell! Yay and Amen!**)

\* Close with Prayer...

## [Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff](#)

### [John 14:1-7](#) (ESV)

**1** "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. **2** In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. **4** And you know the way to where I am going." **5** Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?" **6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. **7** If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him."

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**28** So Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing on My own authority, but speak just as the Father taught Me. **29** And He who sent Me is with Me. He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him.” **30** As He was saying these things, many believed in Him. **31** So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, **32** and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

### **Quote by Billy Graham**

"You can accept the truth, you can reject the truth, but you can't change the truth."

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## **Bonus Goodies**

**Why Should We Care About Objective Truth? - John Piper**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sHGEzJwHWs>

**True Truth - Steve Lawson (Ligonier Ministries)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=netZYR-vXSs>

**Is Truth Objective? Q & A with John MacArthur**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTTysX1WDKg>

**Does the Bible Give Us All the Answers? - Dr. Wayne Grudem**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IxILWh1I3p0>

**C.J. Stroud & Kamryn Babb - OSU vs Indiana Postgame Interview (Christ Honoring!)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KqmvioMvYXDg>

## **More Verses, Quotes, Excerpts, & Extras**

### **John 1:1-14 (ESV)**

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. **6** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness, to bear witness about the Light, that all might believe through him. **8** He was not the Light, but came to bear witness about the Light. **9** The true Light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. **11** He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. **12** But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His

name, He gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. **14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### **3 John 1:2-4 (AMP)**

**2** Beloved, I pray that in every way you may succeed and prosper and be in good health [physically], just as [I know] your soul prospers [spiritually]. **3** For I was greatly pleased when [some of the] brothers came [from time to time] and testified to your [faithfulness to the] truth [of the gospel message], that is, how you are walking in truth. **4** I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my [spiritual] children are living [their lives] in the truth.

### **Quote by St. Augustine**

"Where I found truth, there found I my God, who is the truth itself."

### **Quote by A.W. Tozer**

"The Bible is not only a book which was once spoken, but a book which is now speaking."

### **Quote by Major Ian Thomas**

"Jesus Christ Himself is the final exegesis of all truth. He is all that we need to know about God, and He is all that we need to know about man."

### **Quote by Charles Spurgeon**

"If you want the truth to go round the world you must hire an express train to pull it; but if you want a lie to go round the world it will fly; it is as light as a feather, and a breath will carry it."

### **Quote by Thomas Fuller**

"If I speak what is false, I must answer for it; if truth, it will answer for me."

### **Quote by Ray C. Stedman**

"Remember that grace and truth cannot finally be crucified. Remember that all the high things that make humanity beautiful cannot be forever laid in the dust, spattered with blood. And most of all, remember that He who rose from the dead, rose to pour out His Holy Spirit into human lives, and, by that Spirit, to make available to any individual all the fullness of Himself, twenty-four hours a day."

### **Quote by F.B. Meyer**

"Let us not fear modern criticism; it cannot rob us of one jot or tittle of God's truth. Scripture will shake it off, as the Apostle did the viper which fastened on his hand, and felt no hurt."

### **Quote by John MacArthur**

"Love and truth must be maintained in perfect balance. Truth is never to be abandoned in the name of love. But love is not to be deposed in the name of truth... Truth without love has no decency; it's just brutality. On the other hand, love without truth has no character; it's just hypocrisy."

**Quote by Martin Luther**

"Peace if possible, but truth at any rate."

**Quote by Billy Graham**

"Because truth is unpopular does not mean that it should not be proclaimed."

**Quote by Adrian Rogers**

"It is better to be divided by truth than to be united in error. It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals, than falsehood that comforts and then kills. It is not love and it is not friendship if we fail to declare the whole counsel of God. It is better to be hated for telling the truth than to be loved for telling a lie... It is impossible to find anyone in the Bible who was a power for God who did not have enemies and was not hated. It's better to stand alone with the truth than to be wrong with a multitude. It is better ultimately to succeed with truth than to temporarily succeed with a lie."