

Truth

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Introduction

*Romans 1:18-19 ... 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the *truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. (NASB95)*

The Greek word ἀλήθεια [alētheia], occurring 110x in the NT, which primarily means “hiding nothing,” refers to “(1) the quality of being in accord with what is true, truthfulness, dependability, uprightness in thought and deed; (2) the content of what is true, truth (opposed to ψεῦδος, i.e. a lie, falsehood); (3) an actual event or state, reality” [BDAG].

Strong/Thayer say it refers “(1) objectively; (a) what is true in any matter under consideration; (b) what is true in things appertaining to God and the duties of man, moral and religious truth; (c) the truth as taught in the Christian religion, respecting God and the execution of his purposes through Christ, and respecting the duties of man, opposing alike to the superstitions of the Gentiles and the inventions of the Jews, and the corrupt opinions and precepts of false teachers even among Christians; (2) subjectively; truth as a personal excellence; that candour of mind which is free from affection, pretence, simulation, falsehood, deceit.”

God’s Relationship to the Truth

- The Lord God is a God of truth (Exod. 34:6; Ps. 31:5; Isa. 65:15-16).
- Jesus Christ is the incarnation of truth (John 1:14-18; 14:6; 18:37).
- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth (John 14:16-17; 15:26-27; 16:12-13).
- God’s Word is the revelation of truth (Psalm 119:142, 160; John 17:17).
- The church is the pillar and support of the truth (Zech. 8:3, 16; 1 Tim. 3:14-15).

Man’s Relationship to the Truth

Response of the Righteous

- The righteous know the truth (John 8:31-32; 1 Tim. 2:3-4; 1 John 2:20-21).
- The righteous obey the truth (Eph. 1:13-14; Col. 1:3-8; 1 Pet. 1:22-23).
- The righteous worship in truth (Ps. 145:18; John 4:23-24; 1 Cor. 5:6-8).
- The righteous rejoice in the truth (1 Cor. 13:4-7; 2 John 4; 3 John 2-4).
- The righteous walk in the truth (Eph. 4:20-25; 5:6-10; 1 John 3:17-22).

- Jesus taught the truth (Luke 4:16-30; John 8:39-47; 16:7).
- Paul taught the truth (Acts 26:24-28; 2 Cor. 4:1-2; Gal. 2:1-5).
- Disciples teach the truth (Eph. 6:13-17; 2 Tim. 2:14-15, 24-26).

Response of the Wicked

- The wicked do not believe/love the truth (John 18:36-38; 2 Thess. 2:10-12).
- The wicked do not obey the truth (Rom. 2:5-11; 2 Tim. 4:3-4; James 5:19-20).
- The wicked distort the truth (Rom. 1:18-25; Gal. 5:1-7; 1 Tim. 6:3-5; 2 Tim. 2:16-18; 3:6-9; Titus 1:10-14).
- The wicked are duplicitous regarding the truth (Rom. 2:17-24; Gal. 2:11-14; 1 John 1:6-10; 2:3-6).

Conclusion

- Have you been sanctified in truth (John 17:19)?
- Have you been begotten in truth (James 1:18)?
- Are you being established in truth (2 Pet. 1:12)?