

## **The Wednesday Word, January 1, 2025: Living in the Truth!**

Speaking of one of his political opponents Winston Churchill said, "He occasionally stumbles across the truth but manages to pick himself up and hurries off as though nothing had happened." Alas, some professing believers are also like that.

For the gospel centred believer, however, truth is of utmost importance. It's neither optional nor the prisoner of subjective interpretation.

In the Bible we encounter such expressions as,

"Those that know the **truth**;" (1 Timothy 4:3b),

"Those that obey not the **truth**;" (Romans 2:8; Galatians 3:1; Galatians 5:7),

"The **truth** as it is in Jesus;" (Ephesians 4:21),

"Belief of the **truth**;" (2 Thessalonians 2:13),

"Acknowledging of the **truth**;" (2 Timothy 2:25),

"The way of **truth**;" (2 Peter 2:2),

"We are of the **truth**;" (1 John 3:19),

"Destitute of the **truth**;" (1 Timothy 6:5),

"Sanctify them through thy **truth**;" (John 17:17),

"I speak forth the words of **truth**;" (Acts 26:25),

"The **Spirit of truth** will guide you into all **truth**" (John 16:13).

It would seem obvious then that truth is no slight matter with God. We must, therefore, always be careful to tell the truth about Christ and His gospel. There can be no room for compromise. The Martyr, Jon Huss (1370 – 6 July 1415), said it like this, "Therefore, faithful Christian, seek the truth, listen to the truth, learn the truth, love the truth, tell the truth, defend the truth even to death"

### **So, what is the truth concerning Jesus?**

He is the eternal Word (John 1:1;14),

God manifest in the flesh (1 Timothy 3:16),

The Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8; 1:11; 21:6; 22:13),

The True Light (John 1:9-12),

The Bread of Life (John 6:48),

The Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25),

The Good, Great and Chief Shepherd (John 10:11, Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 5:2).

The only way of salvation for, "Neither is there salvation in any other for there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

The big question is, not whether we know these scriptures, but rather, do we stand by them and proclaim them?

Are they a part of us?

Has their truth taken a hold of us? *Has the Word of the Lord become the Voice of the Lord to us?* As Luther said of the words of scripture, "These are not words for reading, but for living."

Before he was saved, the apostle Paul was the ringleader of the radical self-righteous movement. He was a violent enemy of the Lord Jesus. But, with great grace and power, the Lord Jesus apprehended Him and reduced him to nothing. From that point onward, Paul went in pursuit of his new Master. He was like a man possessed having discovered a new love and passion. The reality of Christ and His purposes on earth now consumed him. Paul now walked by faith, believing the truth of the gospel not just generally, but personally. (Galatians 2:20). He was now Gospel centred!

The Gospel will neither allow us to live with the theory of God nor with speculation about Him for the Gospel is the explosive power of God unto salvation. (Romans 1:16). As we honour the words of God and trust what they say about Jesus we not only honour the One who wrote them, but we also enjoy their life-giving power.

We glorify Christ in believing what He tells us in His Word. If the Word says we have full right of access by the blood of Christ to the Father, we believe it. (Ephesians 1:6-7). If any whisper comes and says that we do not, we smell the bad breath of the Devil.

And that's the Gospel Truth!