

The Love of 'the truth'

10th Word of the Kingdom Conference

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2Th 2:10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.....**12** that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. **13** But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth **14** to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Ti 2:4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth

PART TWO

WHAT DOES 'THE LOVE OF THE TRUTH' ENTAIL?

In this second part of the message we will look at some scriptures clearly point to what it is to have 'the love of the truth'

1. DILIGENTLY STUDYING THE TRUTH & BELIEVING IT

- a) **2Ti 2:15** be diligent to present thyself approved to God-- a workman irreproachable, rightly dividing the word of the truth YLT
- b) **2Th 2:10** and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.....**12** that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness **13** But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. NKJV

The love for the truth manifests in the how we handle it. The amount of time we spend in it and our consistence in studying it correlates directly with how much love we have of the truth. A cursory, peripheral attention to it will certainly not cut it. It should take center stage in our lifestyle – in studying it. The enemy of the faith will put all manner of blockages our way – these weights we must ruthlessly let go - whatever it will cost us.

2. PRACTICING IT - Obeying and practicing the truth

The love of the truth entails choosing to obey or practicing the truth. The love of it elicits/demands action on our part.

- a) Let us start of here by noting that it is possible to lose grip of ‘*the truth*’ – Christians in that area of Galatia did so - **Ga 3:1** *O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?* Paul later in the letter asks them in **Ga 5:7** *You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?*
- b) Knowing the truth is one thing and OBEYING it can be another. Here in verse 7 we see that ‘*running well*’ is demonstrated by obeying ‘*the truth*’.

Running well = obeying the truth

- c) **Heb 12:1** *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*
- d) And this scripture – helps us to see what running well entails
 - *Laying aside every weight,*
 - *Laying aside the sin which doth so easily beset us, and*
 - *Embracing patience*
 - *Looking away from the world (and its offerings) and looking unto Jesus – the author and finisher of the faith*
 - *Having a consuming desire to hear on that Day – Enter the Joy of the Lord – **Mt 25:23.***
- e) It gives me great encouragement to know that the more I obey the truth the more my soul gets purified - **1Pe 1:22** *Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart*
- f) As we continue practicing the truth – it becomes a lot easier to determine the right company to keep - **1Ti 6:5** *useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the*

truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself and Tit 1:14 not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

3. **STAND UP FOR THE TRUTH AGAINST THE** *(overwhelming negative voice of the)*
MAJORITY

We have a good example in Caleb and Joshua in the OT - **Nu 13:16** *These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua... 25 And they returned from spying out the land after forty days 27 Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit 28"Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there... 30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it " 31 But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." 32 And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature..... Nu 14:4 So they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt"..... 7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. 8 "If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.*

[The word 'delights' here carries the meaning of "if the Lord is pleased in us" - was the conviction these two had and we know what the scriptures say about pleasing the Lord – **Heb 11:6** *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him]* 9 *"Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them."*

4. COUNTING the COST [e.g. of the life of Paul]

- **Ac 20:24** *"But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God"*
- **Php 3:8** *Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.*
- **Php 3:14** *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*
- **2Ti 4:7** *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

5. TEACHING IT

- **1Ti 3:15** *but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*
- **Ps 11:3** *If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?*

6. TAKING THE WARNINGS SERIOUSLY

- **2Ti 4:3** *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; **4** and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.*
- **Heb 10:26** *For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins*
- **Ga 3:1** *O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? And Paul asks them in **Ga 5:7** *You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth**
- **2Ti 4:4** *and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.*

- **2Pe 2:1** *And there did come also false prophets among the people, as also among you there shall be false teachers, who shall bring in besides destructive sects, and the Master who bought them denying, bringing to themselves quick destruction, 2 and many shall follow out their destructive ways, because of whom the way of the truth shall be evil spoken of, YLT.*

7. CARING ENOUGH TO RESTORE THOSE WHO AMONG US.....

We have a responsibility of turn back those who wonder from the truth - **Jas 5:19**
*Brethren, if anyone **among** you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, 20 let him know that he who did turn back a sinner from the straying of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall cover a multitude of sins,*