

MAKING THE CASE FOR TRUTH

Many holidays have been celebrated in steady succession since the start of the autumn season in the USA. First, there was Thanksgiving with plenty of delicious food and travel to near and distant lands. Then there was Christmas; a time in which people across the globe attempted to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Very recently, a type of “New Year” was celebrated. During these holidays, depending on one’s disposition or self control, individuals experience happiness or sadness. People spent money and people overate to create short lived happiness. I like Thanksgiving because there is biblical support throughout the Bible. Christmas in December and the “New Year” of January, though recognized and celebrated across the globe, have no biblical support. So, I am not drawn to celebrating those holidays. That brings me to a brief examination of “**Truth**”. Pilate, as he examined Jesus prior to His crucifixion, asked the riveting question, “What is truth?” He came face to face with TRUTH but was not aware. It was Jesus who said “I am the way, the truth and the life” (St. John 14:6). He is the **ultimate** truth. Truth in the abstract is the central theme around which the life of a believer must revolve. Bluntly put, that which is not true is untrue or a lie. Truth originates in Jesus and lies have their origin in the devil (St. John 8:44). Why is truth significant? Truth is the door that must be unlocked to cause repentance for salvation. “What do you mean?” one might ask. In order to acknowledge the need for Christ one must be true to one’s self and admit that one’s life is not only empty but also loaded down with sin. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Ownership of one’s vulnerability to committing sin is the first step to repentance.

There are many religions and philosophers who support the belief that there is no absolute truth nor is there any right or wrong action. Man can establish his own truth and therefore has the freedom to do what he pleases with no regard for negative consequence or outcome! A liar with practice becomes adept at justifying actions or ideas, which left unchecked, become a way of life. This way of life may even entice others into living and believing lies. If I justify, glorify and celebrate lies, what would be the need to repent? However, all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone (Rev.21:8). This is the **truth**. Here is a good reason to become acquainted with and to walk in **truth**. Jesus said, “Ye shall know the **truth** and the **truth** shall make you free.” (St. John 8:32). This statement was made to those Jews who believed in Him when His teaching was unpopular with the church folk of that day. Jesus advised the believing Jews that should continue in His word to be classified as His disciples.

Do you truly want to be a disciple of Christ? Then, you must use the word of God as a mirror. This is what will happen when we look in that mirror - We will see that we have all wronged, and some are still engaged in wrong doing. Let us lay aside every weight of sin. Only Christ can give us the freedom of truth. For, Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation (11Cor.7:10). This is the truth! Here is some more truth. “For God so love the world that He gave His only

begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (St. John 3:16).

Do you want to learn some more **truth** in this time of social chaos? It will make you free. Did you know that Jesus spoke in parables on many occasions as He taught? We want to hear from you with your questions and comments.

-----Evang. Hannah Lewis