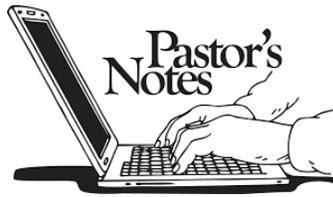


210 W. Small St.
P.O. Box 275
Westport, In. 47283
www.sdecatarbaptist.org

South Decatur Baptist Church

Pastor Gary L. East

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What is True Truth

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

As has been said before, "what is truth"? Of course God is always referring to His truth. If you believe God is the designer and creator of all things then you would have to believe His word is truth. There are some who want us to believe that the Bible is only partially true. They believe that only they are capable of picking and choosing what to believe. In that group there is always someone who looks at the scriptures and decides they do not want to believe part of it. The problem with that reasoning is that the Bible itself claims it is the word of God.

1Thessalonians 2:13 *"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."*

This puts us in the position of either accepting the Bible as the word of God or there is no word of God. Who is smart enough to make that decision? (I guess there are many who think they are that smart)

Romans 1:18 raises the subject to a new level. That verse says, "For the wrath of God is revealed" "who hold the truth in unrighteousness". This is stating that God takes the acceptance of His word very seriously. He also states that it is the truth. If His word is truth then all this nonsense being promoted that there is no absolute truth is wrong. God is the absolute and His word is truth.

Jesus said there is a Word of God: *"But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it." Luke 11:28, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matthew 24:35, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4, "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31-32*

The Old Testament speaks of the Word of God: *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalms 119:105, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word." Psalm 119:9, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." Isaiah 40:8, "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live." Deuteronomy 8:3, "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." Psalm 119:130, "Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him." Proverbs 30:5-6*

The New Testament also speaks of the Word of God: *"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" Colossians 3:16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:" 2 Timothy 3:16, "But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." 1 Peter 1:25*

If accepting that there is a Word of God and this has been a problem for you? Please study the Bible and pray that God will show you truth. A good place to start is the book of John. Remember, *“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* John 8:32. If we want to know the truth and take the time to seek the truth, don't we think that God is powerful enough and caring enough to guide us?

If you have been a Christian for a while and have not really taken the time to study the Bible as you should, do take the time. Do so prayerfully and with purpose. The only thing standing in the way of a better understanding of God's truth is ourselves.— GE

The Dead Cow

The famous preacher and author, Charles Spurgeon told this story of his grandfather James and his faith in God. “He had a large family and a very small income, but he loved his Lord, and he would not have given up his preaching of the gospel for anything.” One day the cow on which the family relied for milk for the children suddenly died. James Spurgeon's wife was greatly concerned, but he said, “God said He would provide, and I believe He could send us fifty cows if He pleased.”

On that same day, a group met in London—a group James Spurgeon did not know—that wanted to help meet the needs of poor pastors. They raised a large sum of money, and began sending it to different pastors in need to help their families. When they reached the end of the list, there were still five pounds left. One man suggested sending it to James Spurgeon. Another said, “No, let's not send just five pounds. Let me add five more to go with it.” Others joined in, and the day after his cow died, James Spurgeon received twenty pounds in the mail! (a pound is a measure in English money)

You can trust God to keep His promises and provide for your needs.

“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”—Philippians 4:19

Source: The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, Volume 21

God in My Corner

In George Foreman's book, *God in My Corner*, the former heavyweight boxing champion writes: “In 1974, before I went to Africa to fight Muhammad Ali, a friend gave me a Bible to take along on my trip. He said, ‘George, keep this with you for good luck.’ I believed the Bible was just a shepherd's handbook, probably because the only verse I knew was ‘the Lord is my shepherd.’ But I was always looking for luck, so I carried that Bible with me. I had lucky pennies and good luck charms, so now I added the ‘lucky’ Bible to my collection of superstitious items.

After I lost the fight, I threw the Bible away. I never even opened it. I thought, The Bible didn't help me win, so why do I need it? I thought I'd get power simply from owning it; I didn't realize that I needed to read it and believe what it says. Since then, I've come to understand that the Bible is my road map, not my good luck charm.”

Submitted by the homiletics class of West Coast Baptist College

“I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be. But I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, “By the grace of God I am what I am.”—John Newton

Weights

Hebrews 12:1 admonishes Christians to “Lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us.” Many times those weights are simple distractions that create enormous drag. One preacher illustrated it this way: “It's perfectly legal to run a race in army boots.” He said it wasn't wise and would guarantee failure, but you can legally do it. Many of the things that prevent spiritual growth and development are legal, but they just don't lead to success.

Source: *The Last Men's Book You'll Ever Need*, David Moore