

ST 18 - The Truthfulness of God

He is the true God. And His thoughts and words are the final standard on what truth is. He is the very essence of truth. This is not merely honesty. You can be honest while being capable of being dishonest. But, God is purely true – He is THE truth.

John 17:3 – “And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent,”

2Chron. 15:3 -- “And for many days Israel was without the true God and without a teaching priest and without law.

Jer. 10:10 -- But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth quakes, And the nations cannot endure His indignation.

1Thess. 1:9-10 -- For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is* Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.

1 John 5:20 -- And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding, in order that we might know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

Rev. 3:7-- “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

Titus 1:2 -- Paul, a bond-servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness ...

God is truth and he cannot lie

Titus 1:2-3 - in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, but at the proper time manifested, *even* His

word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior;

John 14:2 - "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

Hebrews 6:18 – So that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

When He speaks, He speaks accurately and truthfully.

John 17:17 – “Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.”

NOUN truth. Not adjective. God’s word is equitable with truth itself. So everything else has to be measured by the standard of God’s truthfulness.

So, if the Bible is God’s word, then the Bible is axiomatically not just “true” but “the truth.” So, we need to handle and promote His word as the truth. When we defend or offer an apologetic, we need to start from the presupposition that God’s word is true. Don’t let cynics assume their own truth and put the Bible on the defensive. Don’t let the atheist become the judge and put God on trial.

We, as God’s people, are called on to be truthful.

We should also be honest, trustworthy and truthful as we represent Him.

Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Don’t bear false witness against your neighbor – it’s a commandment that assumes truth and forthrightness.

Col 3:9 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.

2 Cor. 4:2 - But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

So, God is truth. What God says is true. And we need to be about the practice of pursuing truth and advancing truth – even in the face of an opposing world that loves lies.

With His truth, we consider His **Faithfulness**. Because He cannot lie, He is faithful to His word and does what He says. He will always do what He has promised – and keep His word TO the very people to whom He promised it.

Numbers 23:19 - God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Deut. 7:9-10 “Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments; but repays those who hate Him to their faces, to destroy them; He will not delay with him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face.

2Tim. 2:13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself.

Psa. 89:5-8 -- And the heavens will praise Thy wonders, O LORD; Thy faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones. For who in the skies is comparable to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty is like the LORD, a God greatly feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all those who are around Him? O LORD God of hosts, who is like Thee, O mighty LORD? Thy faithfulness also surrounds Thee.

Faithfulness is part of the prophetic description of Christ to come:

Is. 11:1-5 -- Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, and He will not judge by what His eyes see, nor make a decision by what His ears hear; But with righteousness He will judge the poor, and decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, and faithfulness the belt about His waist.

Psa. 36:5-6 -- Thy lovingkindness, O LORD, extends to the heavens, Thy faithfulness reaches to the skies. Thy righteousness is like the mountains of God; Thy judgments are like a great deep. O LORD, Thou preservest man and beast.

Psa. 119:137-138 - Righteous art Thou, O LORD, and upright are Thy judgments. Thou hast commanded Thy testimonies in righteousness and exceeding faithfulness.

Pink --

We find this precious truth expressed almost everywhere in the Scriptures, for His people need to know that faithfulness is an essential part of the Divine character. This is the basis of our confidence in Him. But it is one thing to accept the faithfulness of God as a Divine truth, it is quite another *to act upon it*. God has given us many "exceeding great and precious promises," but are we really counting on His fulfillment of them? Are we actually *expecting* Him to do for us all that He has said? Are we resting with implicit assurance on these words, "He is *faithful* that promised" (Heb. 10:23)? There are seasons in the lives of all when it is not easy, no not even for Christians, to believe that God *is* faithful. Our faith is sorely tried, our eyes bedimmed with tears, and we can no longer trace the outworkings of His love. Our ears are distracted with the noises of the world, harassed by the atheistic whisperings of Satan, and we can no longer hear the sweet accents of His still small voice. Cherished plans have been thwarted, friends on whom we relied have failed us, a profest brother or sister in Christ has betrayed us. We are

staggered. We sought to be faithful to God, and now a dark cloud hides Him from us. We find it difficult, yea, impossible, for carnal reason to harmonize His frowning providence with His gracious promises. Ah, faltering soul, severely-tried fellow-pilgrim, seek grace to heed Isaiah 50:10, "Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of His servant, that walketh in darkness and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and *stay upon his God.*"

We are resting in God's faithfulness. He will perform every word and keep every promise. He will accept us in His beloved Son. I know that because the faithful One said so.

God will faithfully exact His judgment, vengeance, and punishment. How do I know? The faithful One said so.

A.W. Pink --

Not only does His Word abound in illustrations of His fidelity in fulfilling His promises, but it also records numerous examples of His faithfulness in making good His threatenings. Every stage of Israel's history exemplifies that solemn fact. So it was with individuals: Pharaoh, Korah, Achan and a host of others are so many proofs. And thus it will be with *you*, my reader: unless you have fled or do flee to Christ for refuge, the everlasting burning of the Lake of Fire will be your sure and certain portion. God is faithful. God is faithful in preserving His people. "God is faithful, by whom ye are called unto the fellowship of His Son" (1 Cor. 1:9). In the previous verse promise was made that God would confirm unto the end His own people. The Apostle's confidence in the absolute security of believers was founded not on the strength of their resolutions or ability to persevere, but on the veracity of Him that cannot lie. Since God has promised to His Son a certain people for His inheritance, to deliver them from sin and condemnation, and to make them participants of eternal life in glory, it is certain that He will not allow any of them to perish. God is faithful in *disciplining* His people. He is faithful in what He withholds, no less than in what He gives. He is faithful in sending sorrow as well as in giving joy.
