

Vital & Fundamental Truths of God's Word

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One fundamental truth is that every thought, desire, motive, intention, word, and action that a person may have had before knowing God's full Truth, was totally controlled (by self and Satan).

And, the late Pastor said that knowing the full truth of God is simply that, the full Truth; not just being a member in some denominational church that does not teach the full truth of God's Word.

He believed there are very few who find out that the devil has absolute control of every word they say, and every action taken. Only God can make that fact plain to anyone. The Bible, he said, makes it quite clear, and just by observing the actions and attitudes of people around us, makes this fact very obvious.

He said that it takes long and patient teaching from God to reveal these things to someone. It is encouraging to know, however, that when we place our lives in God's hands; and as we hold steady unto victory, He will make all of these things clear to us.

The devil has supreme control over anyone who has not known the full truth, who has never given their lives completely to God. Jesus said that Satan was the prince, or ruler, of this world. 1 John 5:19 says, "--the whole world is under the control of the evil one." As God opens our eyes to this fact, it will be evident from the actions, words, and attitudes of people we meet with, that Satan is in absolute control.

Then, verse 20 goes on to say, "We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true—even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life."

In Acts 26:16-18, the Lord appeared to the Apostle Paul and said, "I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

That is a revolution; the radical change that must take place in every individual's life. The Apostle Paul told the Ephesians in chapter 2 (vs.1-2) something that brought their attention to their former way of life... "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, {2} in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient."

By "those who are disobedient", the Apostle means, those who have never permitted God to have control of their life; those who have not allowed God to guide their path.

The Apostle Paul also told the Colossians in chapter 1 verse 1-3, "For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. (Accepting the full truth of God, will do that for anyone).

One reason most people accept Satan's influence over their lives, is, that they do not realize their actions and motivations are from the devil; so they don't see the fact that Satan is in control.

The Pastor told about a member who had trouble sleeping; that Satan had bothered them with insomnia, and they were not able to sleep for days at a time. He said that it is our Blood-bought right to have every faculty to perform perfectly; that we have a divine right to a night of sound, refreshing sleep.

It is one of our inheritance rights in Christ; and it is a legal, Scriptural right. Also, it is no different as being pardoned from sin, or healed of any physical pain; all these things were given us in the Atonement of Christ. But, when this member would try to sleep, the devil caused them to think of everything imaginable; their mind would be on many things, and even though they prayed they received no results.

The late Pastor said that the reason this member was not getting an answer to prayer for a proper night's sleep, was unbelief. He said that God revealed to this member that they were not

believing His promises; and that they did not believe the testimony about His Son, which reveals what our Blood-purchased rights are.

Isaiah 53:4-5 tells us of the rights we have... "Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows," That promises us perfect health of body; to be kept well and protected from harm. Satan has no right to afflict us with the slightest pain.

(The verse continues) "we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions," (That means we are forgiven from past sins;) "crushed for our iniquities." (We are delivered from self and Satan's control. We have a divine right to those rich blessings.)

Then, the very significant words... "the punishment that brought us peace was upon him," (Those words don't mean much to the average professed believer; for they just don't realize the importance of them. But those words tell us that anything (at any time or any place) that disturbs our peace, (or makes us unhappy), we have a divine, Atonement right to be delivered from it. We have a right to receive God's peace in its place. That certainly includes a proper night of sleep.

These vital fundamental truths cannot be learned from man. No human teacher could ever impart these facts to us. Nevertheless, they are plain, true fundamental truths spelled out in the Bible.

When Adam sinned, Satan obtained his firm grip that he still retains in the world today. Satan became the ruler of this planet, and everyone born into it, is born under the control of self and Satan.

The Apostle Paul called Satan (2 Cor.4:4) "The god of this age," and said that he, "has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

In referring back to the member who was not able to sleep, the Pastor said that they had been accepting the thoughts of Satan; they seemed so much like their own reasoning. All they needed, he said, was to ask God for wisdom, because He has promised to give it.

Right away, they found out the reason, repented of it, and thus, fulfilled the conditions of receiving answers to prayer; those conditions are

rejecting the lies of Satan, and believing the plain fundamental truth of God's Word.

The Pastor said that it is a long difficult process, to get us away from listening to the devil's lies, yet God is a master Workman, and such a capable Teacher, that if anyone will place their lives in His hands, and hold steady no matter what, He will teach them as quickly as they can accept it.

If anyone would place their life in God's hands, and adhere by the rules; or to (run the race fairly), which means to hold firm and steady; if they would do this, they might, just might, be ready for Eternal Life; because there is a great work to be accomplished in our lives.

He said that he was concerned (very concerned), all during his sixty years under God's teaching, that so many had not found out that what the Bible says, is true. Many did not believe that every fundamental truth had to be accepted; that they must be lived out in their life and practiced every day just like Bible Christians and Jesus did.

The late Pastor said that at first, he did not take the Truth seriously, so he knew when others did not; they lived "careless lives" in their church membership. In his opinion, there were many who did not realize the importance of accepting the whole Truth of God without reluctance or hesitancy, which includes divine healing, control of every family member, and God's financial plan.

He said that all of those who do not take the truth of God seriously, who are unwilling to obey God in their finances, cannot, (simply cannot), progress in the Christian life. And, they will surely go to the Lake of Fire, if they continue on that pathway unrepentant (just as sure as we are listening to this today.)

However, if we will give God a chance to show us this truth of His Word, we will gain many things, instead of losing everything; and especially, losing Eternal Life, which is worth more to every person than a thousand worlds.

The late Pastor told of a personal experience, which was an important example of growth in the Christian life, and of accepting the truth of God's Word right. He said that he was an infidel; (an infidel being a person who does not believe in any particular religion; a person who holds no

religious beliefs), and that he accepted no religious theory the latter part of 1885 (and he ridiculed anyone who believed the Bible.)

He made much fun and criticized a convention on "healing" that was held in a meeting room over the store where he worked. He said that he thought it was the craziest outfit he ever heard of.

However, by February of the following year, 1886, God changed his heart attitude. The illustration he was making was, that if God is given the slightest chance, He can and will change one's heart attitude; they will not have to be forced to accept the truth of the Bible. Instead, they will accept it willingly.

Thus, he said, he was converted in February, surrendered his life to God, and was filled with the Holy Spirit in March. (He progressed that much in a very short time.)

He continued to say that he was instantly healed by a great miracle (while being taught by God) on the 20th of July of that same year. It took God only about four months to convert a very zealous opposer of divine healing, to become an advocate of God's healing power, and to where he fully accepted the Bible plan for perfect health and protection.

God will do that for anyone if given half a chance. Following this, God's work on his life continued... During the summer of that same year, he needed some money for postage because he was not working at the time, and all financial resources had been used up. Some of those living in the home at that time had some money, but he knew better than to ask them for a cent and knew that it would be wrong to borrow even one stamp from them.

He understood at that point in his conversion, that he should go to God in prayer, in secret; not letting anyone know of, or to even hint of his needs, and to ask God to supply what was lacking. He said that in about a half an hour after praying, he received far more than what was needed for postage.

That is what the Holy Spirit will do for anyone, he said, and he gave God all the glory for bringing him to the place where it seemed easy and natural to pray for finances, and to trust God instead of trusting on man, and so, to be victorious.

This fundamental truth of the Bible is there for anyone, who (with the help of the Holy Spirit) willingly accepts it. The Bible is literally God speaking to us, and we need to read and listen.

It is God's instrument of salvation; (Romans 10:17) "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." And (1 Peter 1:25) "the word of the Lord stands forever. And this is the word that was preached to you."

One's reading and accepting of the Bible's fundamental Truth, is God's way to develop and train growing Christians; (1 Peter 2:2) "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation."

Also (2 Timothy 3:15-16) "from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God" (which actually means, God-breathed, or spoken by God), "and is useful for teaching, rebuking/correcting and training in righteousness."

The first fundamental truth of understanding the Bible is "conversion", the very same type of conversion illustrated by the late Pastor when he accepted the Truth of God in 1885.

The Apostle Paul said (1 Cor. 2:14-15) "The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment."

Anyone can receive help and inspiration from the Bible, but the person who reads in a spirit of learning; who has an attitude of submission; willingly accepting all that God is telling them through His Word (they receive infinitely more).

Prior to reading the Bible, a person must always pray for divine light to be given—asking God to enable us to accept what He is saying through the printed Word, and to be able to receive a real understanding of His fundamental truth.

God tells us in His Word that He wants to give us wisdom and discernment; (James 1:5) "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him." And (Psalm 119:18),

"Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law." One hour's thoughtful reading of the Bible, can give us more true spiritual knowledge and comfort from His Word, than a day's conversation with the best of men, or the perusal of man's wisdom.

We need to be careful that Satan does not influence us to become involved in reading worldly books, magazines, and online writings that could only result in very much harm, and eventually our accepting those carnal ideas and actions.

It is easy, if we are not careful, to enjoy reading them, and to become intensely interested in fictional writings and novels that portray very worldly principles, which can be extremely harmful to young minds, and could certainly lead anyone (even a mature person) astray from the principles of Truth given us in the Bible.

When we fill our mind and heart with worldly morality, and a steady diet of fictional novels and stories with questionable themes, then our actions, attitudes, and words are eventually influenced by them; (Matt.12:34) "For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks."

We should follow (Ephes.4:29) "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

How should we read the Bible? Like the Bereans in (Acts 17: 11), "Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness, and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."

They read carefully, and searched the Scriptures, receiving the Word joyfully; keeping their minds alert to what God was saying to them by His written Word. (John 7:17), "If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own." (Obedience to God's will results in a steadfast confidence in God's Word.)

We have the Bible written out in our own language, with the promise that it is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. Every person has the potential to become, like Timothy (to whom the Apostle Paul was writing), a person who is adequate, mature, and furnished with the ability to

act Scripturally. (2 Tim.3:17) "so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." Then (chapter 4:1-2) "In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom."

As the Apostle Paul mentioned our Lord's judging the living and the dead, he re-minded Timothy of Christ's return; and that the Lord's Second Coming is a sure thing. In the meantime, we are (vs.2) to "Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction."

"Be ready and alert" (means); do not let the devil have us use up our time with unprofitable things and questionable activities. Instead, be ready for the Lord's appearing; be consistent in our faith and trust.

In regard to one's being "prepared in season and out of season" means this:

When it is convenient; and when it is inconvenient.

When feeling good; or being oppressed by Satan.

Whether in public or in private.

Whether at home or in another place.

When we are appreciated; and when we are not appreciated.

By saying, "In season, out of season", the Apostle Paul is saying that the secret is consistency. But, in the last days, phony professed Christians and false believers will be on the increase. However, if we are to be true children of God, we must be consistent to live the Truth, and walk the talk, so that we can say what the Apostle was able to say (2 Timothy 4:6-7) "For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."



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*Receive free Tracts email:
fcgchurch1@gmail.com

Or write to: PO Box 24283
Philadelphia, PA 19120
S358R 0410 24W

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