

Series: "How to Survive in the Kingdom of God"



Message: "The Law of Truth Part One"

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Jesus was sent by the Father to save. He came to bear witness to the Truth. He came that we might seek, see, and enter the Kingdom of God by faith in Him. But how once entering the Kingdom do we receive blessing? And how do we function in that Kingdom?

Today we are going to launch into a discussion of the Law of Truth, but before we do, I want to read a few scriptures so that we can contrast those who seek after God and those who do not.

In Ezra 7:10, it says, "for Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord and to practice it and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel." But this heart to seek and study the Law of the Lord was not true of everyone. Over in Nehemiah chapter 9 starting in verse 26 we have this account in Nehemiah's prayer that the people of God became disobedient and rebelled against God, and cast His law behind their backs and killed the prophets who had admonished them so that they might return to the LORD. And they committed great blasphemies, therefore God did deliver them into the hand of their oppressors to oppress them but when they cried to the Lord in the time of their distress, God heard from heaven and according to His great compassion, God gave them deliverers who delivered them from the hand of their oppressors.

But as soon as they had rest, they did evil again before God. Therefore God abandoned them to the hand of their enemies so that they ruled over the people. When they cried again to God, He heard from heaven and many times God rescued them according to His compassion; and admonished them in order to turn them back to His law. Yet they acted arrogantly and did not listen to God's commandments but sinned against His ordinances, by which if someone observes them, that one shall live. And they turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not listen. However, God bore with them for many years and admonished them by His Spirit through His prophets; yet that they would not give ear.

And this goes back and forth, back and forth, so that whenever we do seek God and do seek to enter the kingdom, God will hear our prayers. e.g. 2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalm 9:10; Acts 17:27; Hebrews 11:6; James 4:8; Jeremiah 29:13

The answer is to turn unto God and go His way. That's why we're having this time; to discuss how the Kingdom of God operates. It's good to know these spiritual truths, these spiritual laws we might call them, or precepts.

Let's begin with the Law of Truth. Over in Psalm 119 verse 142, the Word declares "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness and Thy law is truth."

Jesus came that we might seek, see, and enter the Kingdom of God. He calls us to repent and believe, repent or perish. This world, the Holy Spirit declares, is passing away. Jesus Christ gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present, evil age. As we can see in Galatians 1:4, this is the Father's will. We have learned and know that we are justified, declared righteous, by the faith of Jesus Christ; that no flesh shall be justified.

Paul goes on to say something very important to us in Galatians chapter 2. Here in Galatians chapter 2 starting in verse 16 we read, “nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Christ Jesus even we have believed in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law. Since by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified but if while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have also been found sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? May it never be! For if I rebuild what I have once destroyed, I proved myself to be a transgressor, for through the law, I died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and delivered Himself up for me. I do not nullify the grace of God for if [His] righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died needlessly [in vain].”

We receive the promise, the blessings of the Covenant, the Kingdom of God, by faith in Jesus Christ. And we can also see this from Galatians chapter 3 verse 22: “But the scripture has shut up all men under sin that the promise by faith in Christ Jesus might be given to those who believe.”

So we see it is by faith in Jesus Christ that we enter the Kingdom of God. It is by grace, and there are many, giving the testimony of God's grace in their lives as they have repented and trusted in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. How do we do that? By prayer, we ask God to forgive us our sins, grant us repentance, and come into our lives. We ask Him, tell Him, that we want to receive eternal life; that we want to follow Jesus Christ and we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and our Savior; that we welcome the Holy Spirit who is the Spirit of Truth into our lives to guide us into all truth. And we say, “Thank You for this so great salvation.”

Spiritual warfare is fought as a multi-dimensional war on three fronts. You see, many of us don't have too much concept of a war going on until we are delivered from the dominion of darkness into the Kingdom of God's Dear Son. Many times that's when we become aware that there is a war going on, that there are indeed enemies to our soul. These enemies in a broad sense are what we call **the World, the Flesh, and the Devil**. The world is that World System under the influence of Satan and then we have the Flesh, those are the lusts and affections and unlawful desires which are to be crucified and seen as an enemy because those who continually practice the deeds of the flesh, yielding to its appetites and passion for lust, greed and all that, shall neither be justified or inherit the Kingdom of God. You can check that out in Galatians chapter 5. And then we have that realm of evil super-naturalism, that is the kingdom of darkness, under the control and influence of Satan.

Now we're starting to talk about the Law of Truth and the truth is that the invisible world undergirds, surrounds, and interpenetrates the visible world. This invisible world is unrestricted and unlimited. Therefore Jesus' first utterance to the public is “repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” Matthew 4:17. Jesus told us to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness in Matthew 6:33. Reach into the invisible and apply it to the visible. All things are possible with God. Mark 10:27. We get our priorities straight.

The Law of Truth calls us to deal with some spiritual realities. First of all, Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life --John 14:6. We have been declaring to you the full Gospel. Secondly, we enter the kingdom of God by faith in Jesus Christ. Third, we are finite, mortal, limited; God is infinite, immortal, eternal, filled with possibilities. Fourth, as in heaven so on Earth. Jesus said in John 5 verse 19, “Truly, truly I say unto you, the Son can do nothing of Himself unless it is something He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.” God controls all things. He is who He is. He is free and unrestricted. He is Lawgiver, King, and Judge. Jesus spoke as He heard the Father speak. Jesus did as He saw the Father do.

We are to understand the Kingdom of God, how it operates, its governing principles, and then we will have good success. One of those principles is -- **as in heaven, so on Earth**. You see, in heaven, God the Father rules. His will is done. His will governs all of heaven's affairs. His presence pervades. He is Source and Sustainer of all life and blessing. In dealing with spiritual realities and truth, God has given us the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth. God is the One, True, and Living God. Jesus Christ is the Truth.

We're going to close today with 1st Corinthians Chapter 2 verses 12 and 13, **“now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak not in words taught by human wisdom but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual with spiritual.”**

You see, our first principle, The Law of Truth, comes from Malachi 2:6 which says that, **“The law of Truth was in his mouth and unrighteousness was not found in his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness and turned many away from iniquity.”** The principle is -- As in heaven, so on Earth. In heaven, God the Father rules. His will is done. His will governs all of heaven's affairs. He is source and sustainer. God is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient. He is truth. He gives us the Spirit of Truth that we might speak the truth in love and walk in Truth. Jesus in John 17:17 says to His Father, **“Sanctify them by/through Your truth. Your Word is Truth.”**

As in heaven, so on earth. As you hear and see the Father, so seek and do, walking in the Way, the Truth, and the Life, namely in Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is Truth. Behind the commandment of the Mosaic Law is also a promise. **“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” Exodus 20:19; Deuteronomy 5:20.** When we belong to Christ, the Law is written in our hearts. Our hope includes the fact that we can change. As we are sanctified by the truth, we desire to know the truth and have that truth set us free.

Because Jesus is Truth (John 14:6) and because true believers have been given the Spirit of Truth, we are to bear witness of the truth. Acts 1:8, e.g. We are to be true to our word with no great swelling words. 1 John 1:6. Thus we are not to break contracts when a better opportunity comes along, or be habitually late, or not carry through on pledges. Don't make the promise, the vow, the pledge in the first place. Better to precede good intentions and commitments with, “As God grants grace...” or “God willing...” I believe in marriage vows, but I like to add “as God grants grace.”

¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”— ¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” James 4:13-15 ESV

Because God is truth, He is lawful. Remember that. Lawlessness is sin. It is against God's nature and ways. God is not a man that He should lie...

God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? Numbers 23:19 NKJV

We strive to know the truth, to love the truth, for God to put truth in the core of our being, to walk in the truth, to speak the truth in love and not lie.

“Scripture indicates it is proper to lie in select circumstances. In [Exodus 1:15–22](#), Pharaoh ordered the midwives for the Hebrew women to murder the sons born to them. These midwives disobeyed, lying in order to save these boys (vv. 18–19). This lie was born from a fear of God, and so they were rewarded for it (vv. 20–21).

Dr. R.C. Sproul tells us how this story informs the ethics of truth: “We are always and everywhere obligated to tell the truth to whom the truth is due. We are to speak the truth where justice and righteousness requires the truth.” But in this case, Dr. Sproul argues, righteousness required deceit. Being righteous before the face of God required, in this specific case, that a murderer be deceived.

He goes on: “You are not required to tell everything you know or even tell the truth if it is necessary to stop a murder. There are occasions where it would be a sin to tell the truth.”

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/sanctity-truth>

Let us not suppress the truth in unrighteousness. Let us put off falsehood and corrupt communication. Let us not be known as liars. May God grant grace.

By no means! Let God be true though everyone were a liar, as it is written, “That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged.” Romans 3:4 ESV For more,

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/liar>

Bibliography:

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Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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