

Paying Closer Attention to the Truth
(Heb. 2:1; II Peter 1:19)

In a wicked world corrupted by lies, confusion shapes the mind of men and blinds it to the truth. Think, for example, Pilate, the Governor of Jerusalem in the time of YAHSHUA. Doors were opened for him to embrace the truth and have a change of heart. But he chose not to hear what was truth from the lips of the One Who was Truth. YAHSHUA stood there ready to give the answer to his question, "What is truth"? But he made no time for the answer and left YAHSHUA'S presence in confusion of his mind. YAHSHUA had come to the world to bear witness of the truth; He is the root of truth and in Him all men are freed from the confusion of lies Satan has planted in their mind, including Pilate's. Wickedness hinders the truth from entering the heart of men; it closes the door leading men to the step of hell. Ignorance of truth is the same as being physically blind; rejection of truth is eternal condemnation.

The writer of Hebrews warns us to pay much closer attention than ever to the truth that we have heard, lest in any way we drift past and slip away (Heb. 2:1). The danger of drifting and slipping away from the truth is like being carried away by the strength of a storm. Truth is a shelter in times of spiritual and physical storms. When we leave the truth we become the recipient of the devil's lies; we become his audience and followers. He came to destroy us through lies. So paying closer attention to the truth we will be girded with the belt of truth (part of the armor of God) and securely standing our ground of faith. Solomon said, Buy the truth and sell it not (Prov.23:23). Do not compromise it for the sake of friends, ashamed of the gospel, or for any other reason. It is truth that holds us firm and established in all we do and say. Where truth reigns, righteousness enters the courts of justice. The observance of the word of God is the key for every believer to hold on to truth. When truth is hindered in our courts, many innocent people go to jail and some even sentenced to death. When YAHSHUA was sentenced to death it was by the hindrance of truth of Who He was, what He did, as Pilate said, "I found no fault in Him". The accusations brought against Him did not measure up to justify death. But in their wickedness, they hindered the truth about Him and convinced Pilate to kill Him by the death of crucifixion.

When we do not hold to the truth and pay closer attention to it, we become like boats left in the sea without the anchor, drifting ever so slowly away from its destination. God's purpose for the believer is that we may no longer be children, tossed to and from between chance gusts of teaching and wavering with every changing wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14); we must live lives that express truth in all we do and say, securing the word of God in our heart. Believers, who forsake the truth, become like drift wood; lifeless and without purpose; they were carried away by waves of lawlessness and death. They have fallen into the pit of death, and strong delusion of errors has brought them to confusion and the inability to define truth from false teachings. The Word of God warns, not to put faith in every spirit, but to test them to discover whether they proceed from God; for many false prophets have gone forth into the world (I John 4:1).

The false teachings of today as it was then are prevalent in many churches. This is the Laodicea church's era. YAHSHUA condemned her in Revelation by warning her: I know you works and what you are doing; you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth (Rev. 3:15,16)! The Laodicea Church is rising up strongly today and adopting the idea of falling away from the Word of God to embrace the good feeling of positive thinking with disregard to what the Word of God teaches.

The truth is like the small rudder used to steer a ship to where it must go; it is also a compass and at the same time, the anchor of faith. It is the spoken and written Word of God; written many years ago on a tablet, called the law; its message was given by the angels and proved sure; it was declared by the Lord; it was confirmed by the apostles and established by God by signs and wonders and various miraculous manifestations of the Holy Spirit according to His will (Heb.2:1,3). How then shall we escape the judgment of God, if we refuse to pay attention to God's truth? We will not!

On the holy mountain, when YAHSHUA was transfigured, Peter, James and John heard the voice of truth. In that hour YAHSHUA stood in rays of beauty of holiness in His glorified body as God-the Father made the proclamation: This is My Son, the Beloved One. Be constantly listening to and obeying Him (Mark 9:7)! This voice still resounds in the pages of God's word. The truth is that YAHSHUA is the only Son of God, Who loved and loves us so much to the point of giving His life as atonement for our sins. If we dwell in the Truth, YAHSHUA will dwell in us and we will produce fruit unto eternity. He is Truth, shinning the way to heaven; He is the Way; He is Life; He gives abundant life in Him and eternal life with Him. Apart from Him there is no truth, no way to heaven and no eternal life with Him. This is the Truth! We must hold unto this truth to enter heaven. We will do well to pay closer attention to the truth, for it is a lamp shinning into the darkness of our understanding and heart, until our whole heart is illuminated into the way to eternity, provided we do not forsake it. Truth is the sum of God's Word; it is its full meaning. The truth will remain forever; it stands firm in heaven, no matter what choice men make of accepting it or not; of keeping it or not. Pay close attention to what you hear; test the spirits and hold onto the truth.

YAHSHUA said, he who practices truth comes out in the light; he who loves the truth is truly a child of God and is set free from bondage to freedom; from hell to heaven; the person that does not dwell in YAHSHUA, will be thrown out like a branch to wither. He will be gathered to be burned (John 15). Without truth we are dead and not able to bear fruit. We are good for nothing servants and deserving God's judgment. We deny truth when we know what is right but practice wickedness; we commit sin when we know what is right and do not do it and we show that the truth is not in us. Knowing the truth will not be enough to experience the freedom God gives us in Him; but by living it and storing it in our heart, as the Psalmist says: I have hidden Your Word in my heart, so not to sin against you. Hold unto the truth and do not let go of it, and it will accomplish in you fruit that will please God; you will bring Him a suave aroma. Be faithful, and be truthful!