

WHY TRUTH MATTERS

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

Exodus 20:16 (NIV)

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." ³⁸ "What is truth?" retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, "I find no basis for a charge against him."

John 18:37-38 (NIV)

- ❖ The 10 Commandments reveal God's CHARACTER. (John 16:13, Numbers 23:19, Psalm 119:160, John 8:44, Revelation 12:9)

"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."

John 16:13 (NIV)

"God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?"

Numbers 23:19 (NIV)

All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.

Psalm 119:160 (NIV)

"You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

John 8:44 (NIV)

The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Revelation 12:9 (NIV)

- ❖ The truth about the truth . . . (John 8:32)

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:32 (NIV)

1. Some think truth is a CONCEPT.
2. Others think truth is CERTAINTY. (Hebrews 11:6)

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

3. But truth is a PERSON. (John 14:6-7)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

John 14:6-7 (NIV)

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war.

Revelation 19:11 (NIV)

"Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise! ¹² Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy! Let the trees of the forest sing for joy ¹³ before the LORD, for he is coming! He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with his truth.

Psalm 96:11-13 (NLT)

Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me to your holy mountain, to the place where you live.

Psalm 43:3 (NLT)

❖ So, what does it mean to follow the 9th Commandment? (Colossians 3:9-10)

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Colossians 3:9-10 (NIV)

1. I choose not to LIE.

2. I choose not to BELIEVE lies. (1 Timothy 4:1-3)

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. ³ They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

1 Timothy 4:1-3 (NIV)

3. I choose not to SPREAD lies. (Psalm 15:1-3)

O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? ² He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; ³ who does

not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend...

Psalm 15:1-3 (NIV)

4. Instead, I choose to LIVE and WALK in the Truth. (2 John 4)

I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father.

2 John 4 (NIV)