



Check Out Our New



An Idea For Mother's Day

Katrina

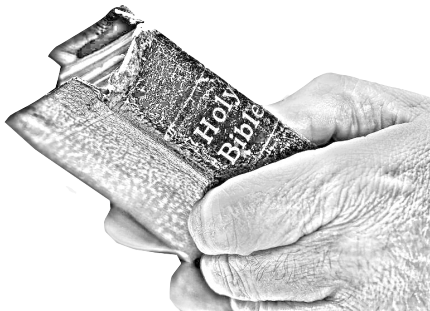
Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

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“Buy The Truth, And Sell It Not.”

“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.”

(Proverbs 23:23)

Buying And Selling The Truth

It is interesting that the Word of God refers to **buying** the truth. The dictionary says to buy something is to “obtain something in exchange for a payment.”

“Ye Shall Know The Truth”

We have a promise from Jesus that says, “Ye shall know **the truth**, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit Paul referred to, “Them which believe and know **the truth**” (First Timothy 4:3). The apostle John wrote saying, “I have not written to you because you know not **the truth**, but because you know it” (First John 2:21).

Where Can We Buy The Truth, And What Does It Cost?

There is only one place where we can buy the truth and that is in the Word of God. When Jesus was praying to his Father in Heaven He said, “Sanctify them through thy truth: **Thy word is truth**” (John 17:17).

Psalm 33:4 says, “The word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth.” Daniel 10:21 says, “I will show the that which is noted in the scripture of truth.”

We can find **the truth** in the Word of God and it is there that we will learn what it will cost. Even a simple study in the Scriptures will reveal that the price of truth is very, very expensive.

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Time

The first thing it will cost us is time. We read in **Second Timothy 2:15** that the Christian is commanded to, “*Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that need it not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*” The dictionary says study is, “*The devotion of time to acquire knowledge on a subject.*”

There are many things in this world bidding for our time and we will obviously give up our time to whatever is most important to us. We would do well to spend some of that 168 hours we have every week taking **time to learn the truth** about the things that really matter.

Learning the truth will definitely cost us *time*, and it will most likely cost us *family and friends*. Preaching the truth cost Jesus a *following*.

“They Walked No More With Him”

About a dozen times we read in the New Testament that “*great multitudes*” followed Jesus. In John chapter six they asked Him what they must do to work the works of God. He told them what they must do, and in verse forty-one we read “*they murmured,*” verse forty-six says, “*they walked no more with Him,*” and then in chapter 7:1 we read, “*they sought to kill Him.*”

Paul, and Peter, were very good friends. When no one would have anything to do with the Apostle Paul, Peter took him in and we read in Galatians 1:18 that he “*abode with him fifteen days.*” However, when Paul’s friend “*walked not uprightly according to the truth*” Paul rebuked him “*before them all.*”

Peter Feared “False Brethren”

It was Christians that caused Peter to deny the truth. Galatians 2:4 tells us it was “*false brethren*” who Peter “*feared*” and concerning these “*false brethren*” in verse five Paul said, “*To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.*”

The phrase the truth is in the Bible over eighty times. In the book of Galatians we read,

Galatians 2:5,

“*To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.*”

Galatians 2:14,

“*But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?*”

Galatians 3:1,

“*O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?*”

Galatians 4:16,

“*Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?*”

Galatians 5:7,

“*Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?*”

Selling The Truth

- **Esau**, sold his birthright for a mess of pottage.
- **Adam and Eve**, sold the truth for some forbidden fruit.
- **Lot**, sold the truth for property that looked like Egypt.
- **Abraham**, sold the truth for fear of Abimelech.
- **Demas**, sold the truth because he loved this present world.
- **David**, sold the truth for the pleasures of sin for a season.

The Fundamental “Movement” Is Selling The Truth At An alarming Rate

First Generation Fundamentalist

Our first generation of fundamentalists stay true to the doctrines found in the Word of God.

Second Generation Fundamentalist

Our second generation fundamentalists decided that preaching doctrine was too costly.

Third Generation Fundamentalist

Our third generation fundamentalists decided to change the doctrine. For example, Hyles and Hutson decided repentance was the enemy of soul winning.

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“I may say with truth that there is only about one in ten who professes Christianity who will turn round and glorify God with a loud voice. Nine out of ten are still born Christians.” D.L. Moody

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When We Sell The Truth We Lose Wisdom, Instruction, And Understanding

The warning is plain. When we sell “the truth” we “also” sell “wisdom” (Proverbs 23:23).

First Kings 22 - Jehoshaphat’s Folly

In first Kings chapter twenty-two we have the story of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, teaming up with Ahab, king of Israel, to go to war against Ramothgilead.

Jehoshaphat’s First Mistake

Verse 2, “Jehoshaphat came down.”

“And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel.”

Verse 4, Jehoshaphat aligned himself with Ahab.”

“And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to battle to Ramothgilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses.”

Verse 29, Jehoshaphat ignored the warnings of God’s prophet, Micaiah.

“So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramothgilead.”

Verse 30, Jehoshaphat lack of wisdom.

“And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but put thou on thy robes. And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle.”

Jehoshaphat could not see through Ahab’s plan. Ahab’s enemy had no idea that the king of Israel was involved in this war. They would obviously assume that Jehoshaphat was the king of Israel. That was Ahab’s plan and Jehoshaphat knew it not because he lost his wisdom when he sold the truth about separation.

Verse 32 says,

“And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely it is the king of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him.”

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In Times Like These

“He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the King shall be his friend.” (Proverbs 22:11)



Michelle

What comfort and encouragement is to be found in this verse! If I love pureness of heart, I will love God's Word. My actions will prove my faith. A watching world cares nothing about my words if there is no action behind them. While reading Daniel 3 one verse demonstrated this perfectly.

Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent His angel, and delivered His servants that trusted in Him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies that they might not serve nor worship any god except their own God (Daniel 3:28).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego loved pureness of heart. Their words and actions demonstrated this before King Nebuchadnezzar. Because they honored God and His Word, God honored them. In just a few moments God changed Nebuchadnezzar's heart which burned with anger towards them.

Their willingness to die in the burning, fiery furnace rather than bow to the image of gold, their refusal to serve the gods of Babylon, and God himself demonstrating His power by protecting them through the fire. It was through this trial of their faith that God was able to do a marvelous work through their obedience!

So, this week as the trials come may we remember that through the circumstances God has placed us in there is opportunity to trust Him, and obey Him. Remember that God can change the hearts and minds of those around us, our job is only to serve Him where He has placed us.



Michelle

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Again, when Jehoshaphat sold the truth, he sold wisdom with it.

Solomon Became A Fool

Consider Solomon's own testimony.

Ecclesiastes 10:3,

"Yea also, when he that is a fool walketh by the way, his wisdom faileth him, and he saith to every one that he is a fool."

Ecclesiastes 10:3,

"And how dieth the wise man? as the fool."

When Solomon sold the truth his wisdom went with it.

When We Sell The Truth, Instruction From God Goes With It

Proverbs 15:33,

"The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom."

James 1:5-7,

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

But let him ask **in faith**, (In line with Bible doctrine) nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

For **let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.**"

Proverbs 23:23,

"Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding."

Perhaps this explains why many good men are going headlong into apostasy at an alarming rate. When we sell the truth we sell wisdom, instruction and understanding with it.

Solomon Was A LOSER!



Solomon was the wisest man who ever lived; however, he was also the greatest loser who ever lived. He sold the truth and lost *wisdom, instruction and understanding*.

When Solomon did not sell the truth, Solomon said, "my wisdom remained with me" (Ecclesiastes 2:16). Later he said, "I will be wise; but it was far from me" (Ecclesiastes 7:23).

What Happened?

First Kings 11:14,

"For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God."

First Kings 11:4,

"And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD."

*"Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding."
(Proverbs 23:23)*

No More Direction From God

Solomon sold the truth for a group of women and lost wisdom, instruction and understanding from God. Solomon said he had become, "*an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished*" (Ecclesiastes 4:13).

Ecclesiastes 2:15,

"As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me."

Ecclesiastes 2:6,

"And how dieth the wise man? as the fool."

Written For Our Admonition

*"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."
(First Corinthians 10:11)*