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**TESTIFY TO TRUTH**

by

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Continental Ministries Europe

Bible-study around the theme for A.D. 2000 to prepare every Continental.

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And Pilate said: "What is truth?" (John 18:38)

In this scene, just before the crucifixion, two words clash:

Pilate: the incorporation of the philosophical view that there are many truths; so one truth can not exist, or even a claim on such phenomena would be total nonsense. The denial of one only truth is a sound heard through the ages: the Grec scholars, the enlightenment, the French revolution, existentialism, post-modernism, etc.....

Jesus: the incorporation of the only one truth of the living God that He truly loves us.....

Jesus says to Pilate: "I came into the world to testify to the truth....."

In this scene the big dilemma of our modern world is portrayed: is there something as an absolute truth?

Maybe you never asked yourself this question. Maybe you always took for granted what you heard in sunday-school, bible-club, church.....

But millions wrestle with this question: is there something like an absolute truth? Something that lasts forever?

In this light it is quite understandable that all religions in the time of Jesus life on earth had images, just to show the "gods".

But the eternal God of Israel is something else.

He is not an idea or a projection of the human mind or the invention as escape for our frightened souls and the human 'angst'. No, this God is the Living One, a true person (in spirit) you can meet, talk to, listening to, walk with.....

And if people want, they can meet Him.

Because sin corrupted our possibilities to understand God; because our fallen nature has great difficulty to meet God in the incredible light of His holiness..... did God the step towards us to seek us in the human form: Jesus, the Messiah, being man and God. While Jesus was on earth He said very clear things about being the way to God: bringing the Gospel, that is: the Good News that God brought His Kingdom back to this world and that every person believing in Him, would have a place in that eternal Kingdom; And with the promise to be renewed in spirit, heart and soul.

*"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father (God), except through me"* (John 14:6)

This is quite a claim, Jesus puts on the table, but is it true? How can we know?

Here Jesus gives us a great helping hand:

*"I will ask the Father and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever: the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you"*

(John 14: 16+17)

What a message, what a comfort: so if we open up our hearts, minds and lives to this Holy Spirit, we will know the truth: God exists, Jesus is alive!  
Wauw, what an incredible experience!

The bible tells us much more about the truth:

- John 8:32 Jesus: *"if you hold to my teachings, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free"*
- John 17:17, Jesus prays: *"sanctify them by the truth; your word is the truth"*
- John 4:23 *"true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.....  
God is spirit and his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth"*
- John 3:20+21 *Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear his deeds will be exposed.  
But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly, what he has done, he has done through God"*
- John 1:17 *"grace and truth came through Jesus Christ"*

The New Testament has quite a list about the importance of truth:

- Gal. 2:5 *"the truth of the gospel"*
- Eph. 1:13 *"you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation"*
- Eph. 4:14 *"speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up"*
- Eph. 5:9 *"live as children of light, for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth"*
- Eph. 6:14 explains the armor we need in our daily (spiritual) battles. Here is mentioned: **"the belt of truth"**. This holds all the other parts together.
- 2 Tim. 2:15B *"handle correctly the word of truth"*
- Titus 1:1 speaks about: *"the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness."*
- James 1:18 *"He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created"*
- 1 Peter 1:22 *"Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth, so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart"*
- 1 John 3:18 *Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth"*
- 1 John 5:6 *"And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth"*
- A great song in the OT, telling already that God is the way, the truth and the life: Psalms 25:4+5 *"Show me your ways, o Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour and my hope is in you all day long"*

A closing remark comes from Proverbs 23:23

*"Buy the truth and do not sell it; get wisdom, discipline and understanding".*

Does truth exist? Yes, it does! And this Spirit of truth will give us life, light, hope, salvation, eternity. So let's open our hearts and let's pray that Jesus will show his truth, his presence, his salvation and redemption to us.

We have a powerful message, a true foundation for the entire world.

And because we are in a spiritual battle, what is the counterforce attacking the truth? It's a cloud of deception, manipulation, partial truth and lies. You can see already this practice in paradise, where the snake (devil) only told part of the truth and in this way was able to seduce Eve and Adam.

The truth sets us free!