



Time is precious, but truth is more precious than time. —Benjamin Disraeli [He is the only British prime minister to have been of Jewish birth.]

Tan, P. L. (1996, c1979). Encyclopedia of 7700 illustrations : A treasury of illustrations, anecdotes, facts and quotations for pastors, teachers and Christian workers. Garland TX: Bible Communications.

## JESUS CLAIMS TRUTH & IS ALMOST STONED



■ John 8:30–59

Key Verse - “So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.””

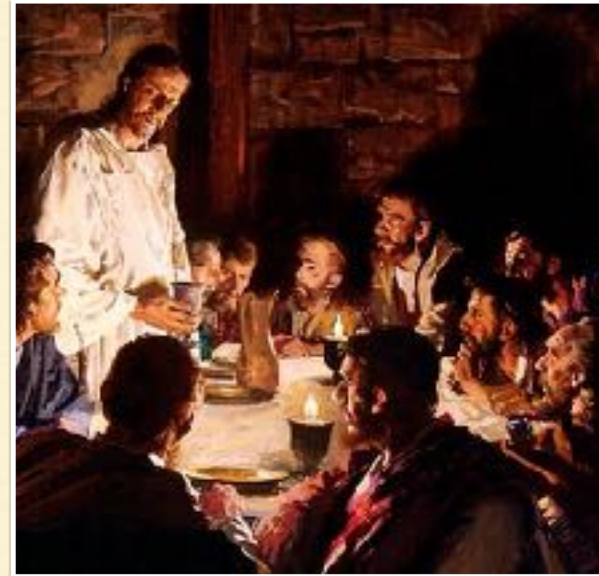
(John 8:31–32 NAS95)

Key passage of John 8 in context - Pharisees see Jesus as a “Flat-Earther”

Dialogue with the contentious Pharisees who distrusted His identity as Messiah

He Taught Truth

- JESUS IS TRUTH
- AS TRUTH, HE IS THE REVELATION OF GOD
- AS TRUTH, HE SETS US FREE



Jesus is truth - John 14:6

As truth, He is the Revelation of God - John 10:30

As truth, He sets us Free



JESUS IS TRUTH



“And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and **abounding in goodness and truth**, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.”” (Exodus 34:6–7 NKJV)

## JESUS CLAIMS TO BE TRUTH

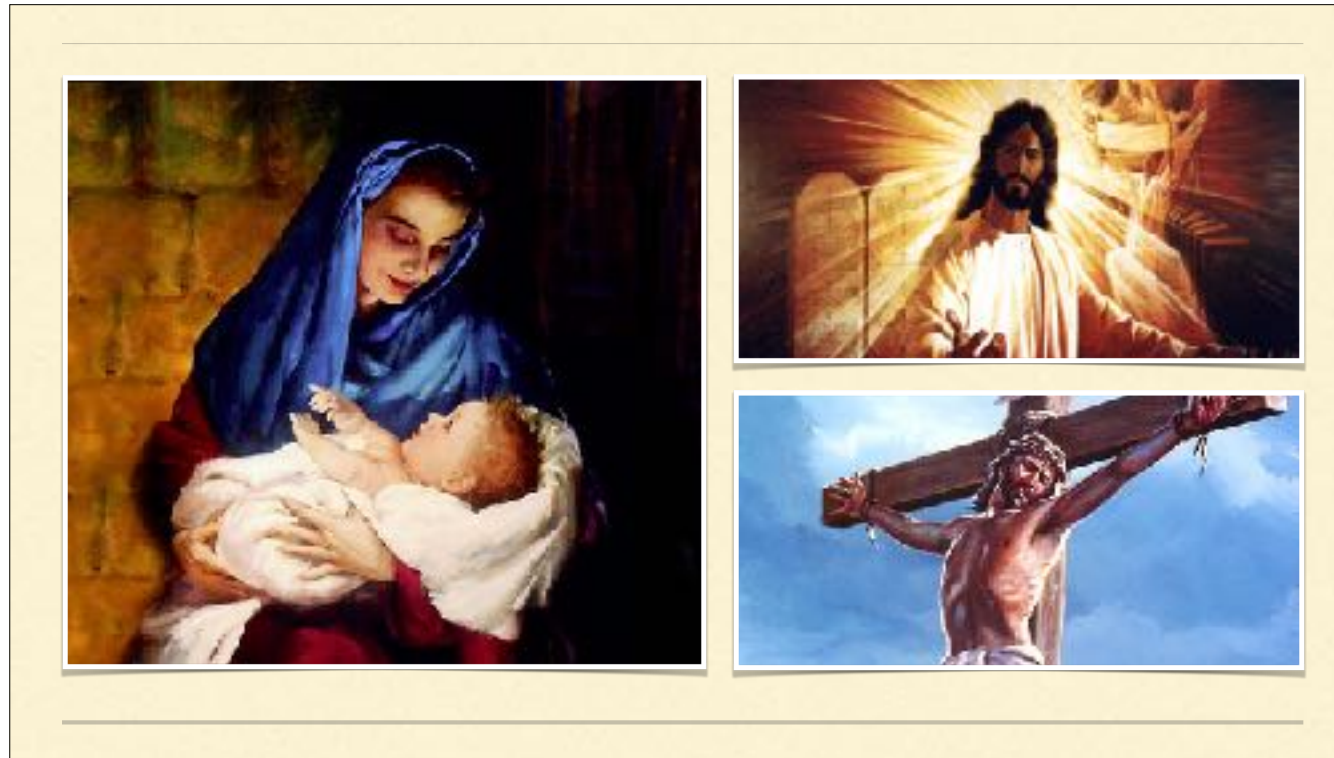
- “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14 NKJV)
- “Therefore Pilate said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” Pilate \*said to Him, “What is truth?” And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and \*said to them, “I find no guilt in Him.” (John 18:37–38 NAS95)

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14 NKJV)

““Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot hear My word. “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. “But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me.” (John 8:43–45 NAS95)

“Therefore Pilate said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” Pilate \*said to Him, “What is truth?” And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and \*said to them, “I find no guilt in Him.” (John 18:37–38 NAS95)





SDABC on John 1:14: “Every major aspect of Christ’s life played an important part in the work of salvation. -

1. His virgin birth reunited the estranged families of earth and heaven. He brought Deity down to earth in order that He might bear humanity with Him back to heaven.
2. His perfect life as a man provides us with an example of obedience (John 15:10; 1 John 2:6) and sanctification (John 17:19); as God, He imparts to us power to obey (Rom. 8:3, 4).
3. His vicarious death made it possible for us to enjoy a period of probation (CS 137) and for Him to justify “many” (Isa. 53:5, 11; Rom. 5:9; Titus 2:14). By faith in His death we are made free from the guilt of sin, and by faith in His life, from its power (Rom. 5:1, 10; Phil. 4:7).
4. His glorious resurrection assures us that one day we too shall “put on” immortality (1 Cor. 15:12–22, 51–55).
5. His ascension confirms His promise to return and take us with Him to meet the Father (John 14:1–3; Acts 1:9–11), and thereby complete the work of saving “his people.”

These five aspects of Christ’s mission to earth were all the subject of prophecy (Isa. 9:6, 7; 53; 61:1–3; Ps. 68:18).”

Nichol, F. D. (1978). *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary : The Holy Bible with exegetical and expository comment*. Commentary Reference Series (Jn 1:15). Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association.

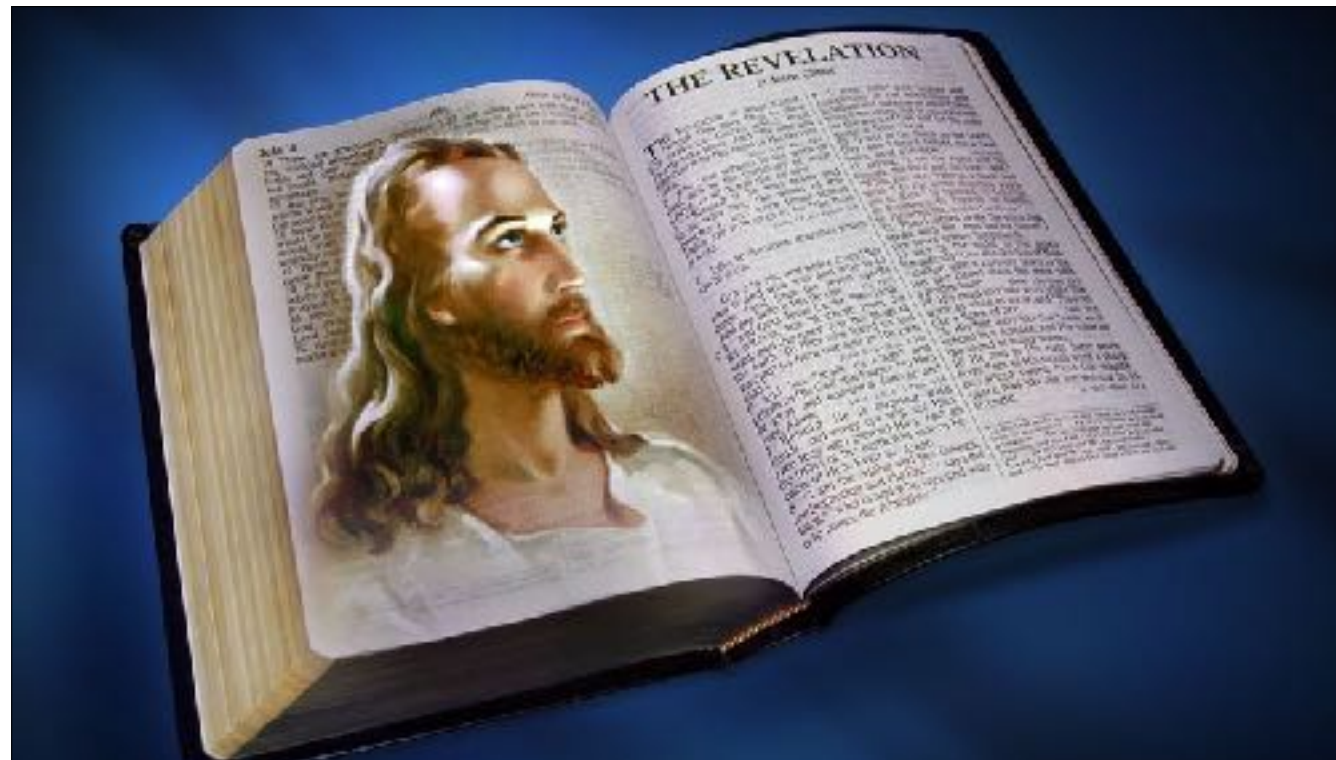


Contrast that with the deception of the devil -

He lied to unfilled angels, he lied to Eve, he lied to Jesus, and he lies to each one of us over and over again...

““Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot hear My word.“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.“But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me.” (John 8:43–45 NAS95)





““This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” (John 17:3 NAS95)

““I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.“I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.“They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.“Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.” (John 17:14–17 NAS95)



“It’s easier to believe a lie that one has heard a thousand times than to believe a fact that no one has heard before.” —Grit

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AS TRUTH, HE IS THE REVELATION OF GOD

Commentary on Truth -

“Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, And Your law is truth.” (Psalms 119:142 NKJV)

“You are near, O LORD, And all Your commandments are truth.” (Psalms 119:151 NAS95)

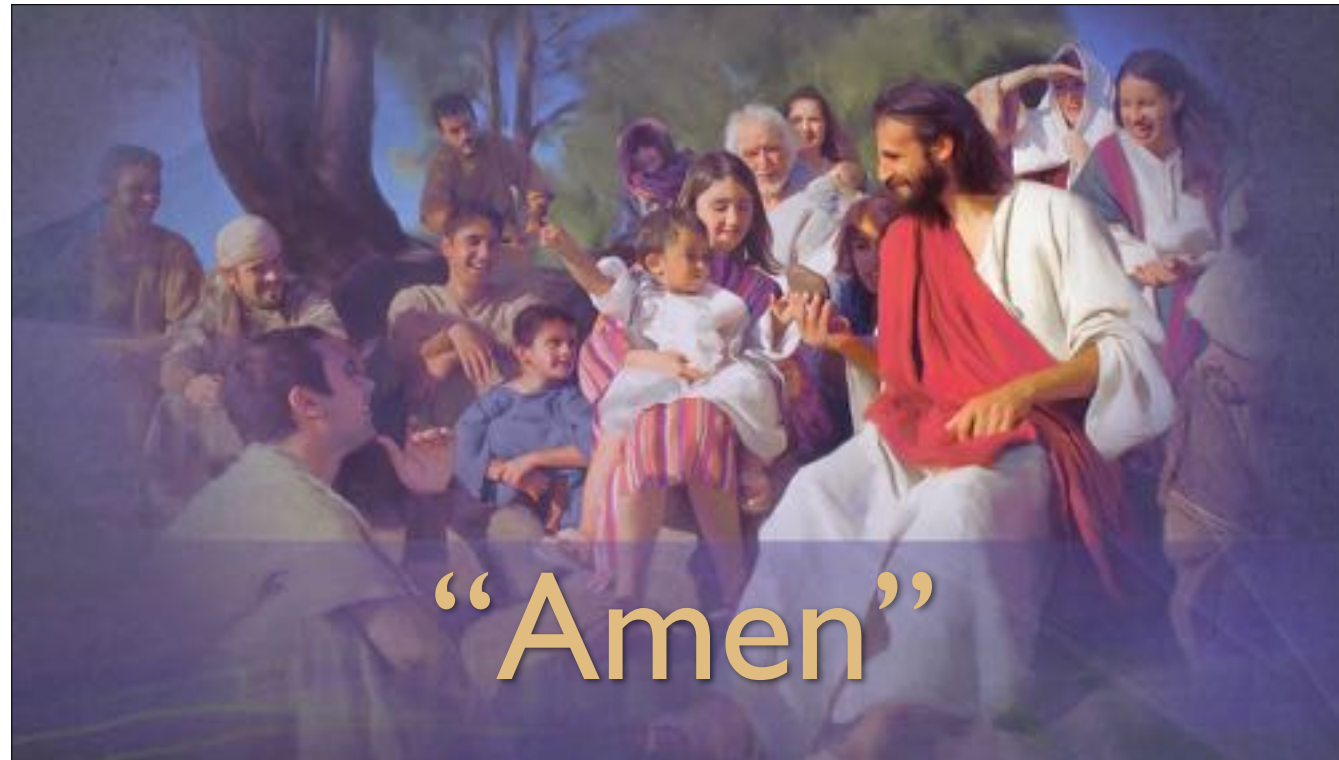
“The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.” (Psalms 119:160 NAS95)

## HEBREW WORD FOR TRUTH



- Truth in Hebrew - “*EMET*” also used as stability; certainty; truth; trustworthiness; establishment, faithful, right, sure. (Hebrew Keys)

Hebrew word for Truth: ‘emet; contracted from 539; stability; (figuratively) certainty, truth, trustworthiness: — assured(-ly), establishment, faithful, right, sure, true (-ly, -th), verity. - Hebrew Keys



““For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.” (Matthew 5:18 NAS95)

SDABC on Matthew 5:18

18. Verily. Gr. amēn, from the Heb. 'amen, “firm,” “established,” “sure.” **In Hebrew usage 'amen gave a confirmatory and emphatic answer to the saying of another** (Num. 5:22; Deut. 27:15, 16; etc.). The same usage is carried over into the NT (1 Cor. 14:16). Amen is also frequent in the NT at the close of doxologies (Rom. 1:25; Gal. 1:5; etc.). **But Jesus' use of Amen to confirm and to strengthen His own saying is peculiar to Him. Many of His sayings are introduced by the phrase, “Verily I say unto you” (Matt. 6:2, 5, 16; etc.), or, as in the Gospel of John (25 times), “Verily, verily, I say unto thee” (John 3:3, 5, 11; etc; see on ch. 1:51).**

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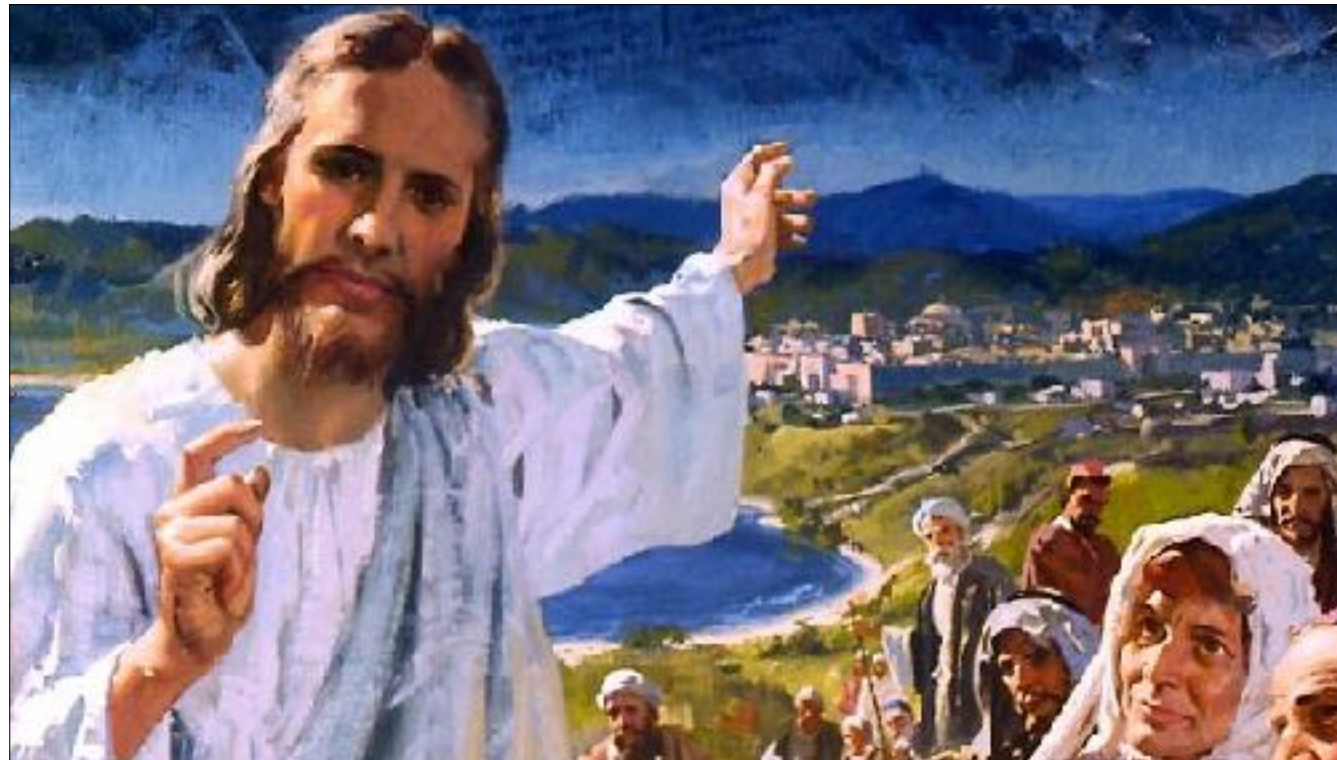
## TRUTH IS UNIVERSAL



- “Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’” {Ministry of Healing pg. 143}

When we comprehend that “God is truth”; we will understand that He is truth for every context and culture. Thus our Evangelism can adapt to accommodate the variety of people groups that need to hear and witness salvation. -

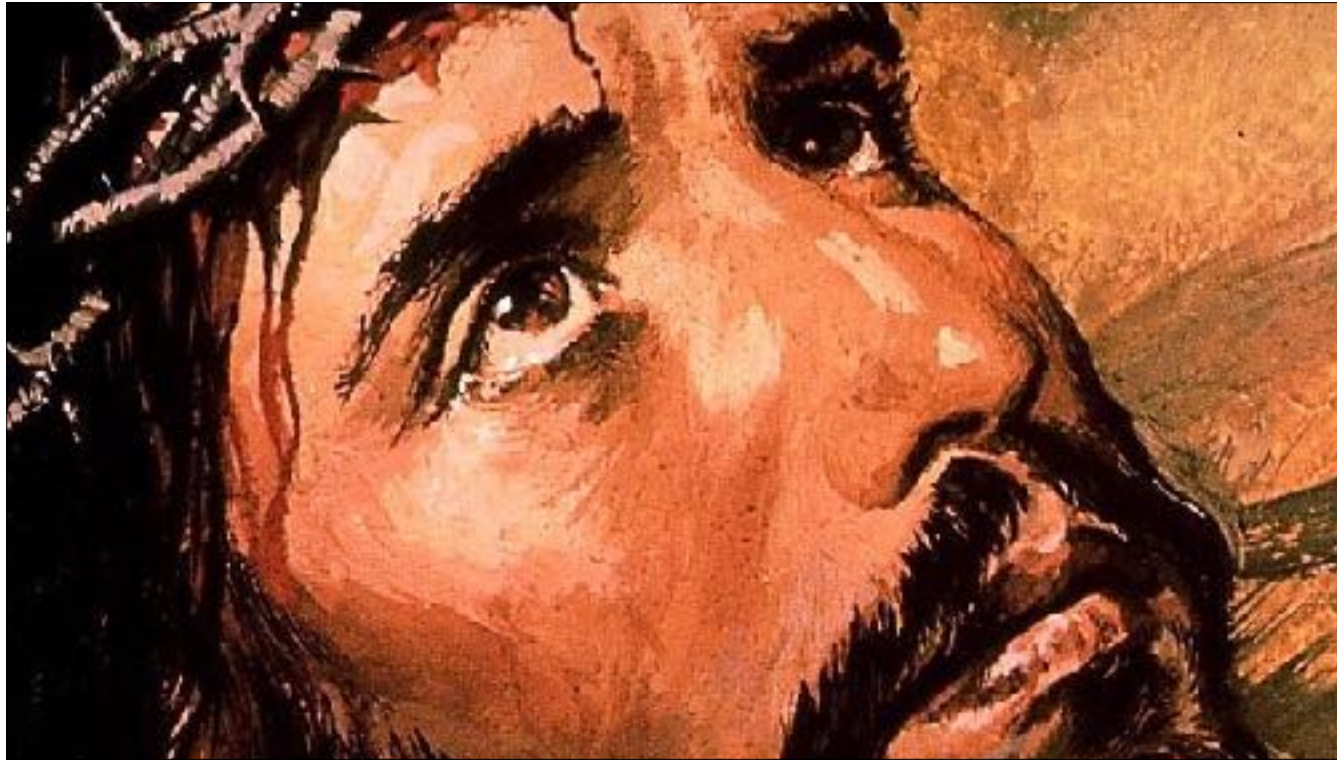
Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me." {MH 143.3}



“Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father’s name, these testify of Me.”But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep.”My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.”My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”I and the Father are one.”  
The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, “I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?”” (John 10:25–32 NAS95)

- “The Lord will guide all who humbly walk with Him. Humble men [and women] who trust in Him will be the most successful workers in His cause. We shall gain the victory, not by erecting massive buildings in rivalry with our enemies, but by cherishing a Christlike spirit of meekness and lowliness. Better far the cross and disappointed hopes, than to live with princes and forfeit heaven. Truth will be bitterly opposed, but never will it lose its vitality.” --MS. 109, 1902.

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Jesus' statement on the cross echoes what the Psalmists says directly regarding the character of God: "Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth." (Psalms 31:5 NKJV)





AS TRUTH, JESUS SETS US FREE

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“So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in Him, If you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples. And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free. They answered Him, We are Abraham’s offspring (descendants) and have never been in bondage to anybody. What do You mean by saying, You will be set free? Jesus answered them, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, Whoever commits and practices sin is the slave of sin. Now a slave does not remain in a household permanently (forever); the son [of the house] does remain forever. So if the Son liberates you [makes you free men], then you are really and unquestionably free.” (John 8:31–36 AMP)



## TRUTH IS AN ASPECT OF GOD'S CHARACTER



- “O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, And speaks truth in his heart.” (Psalms 15:1–2)

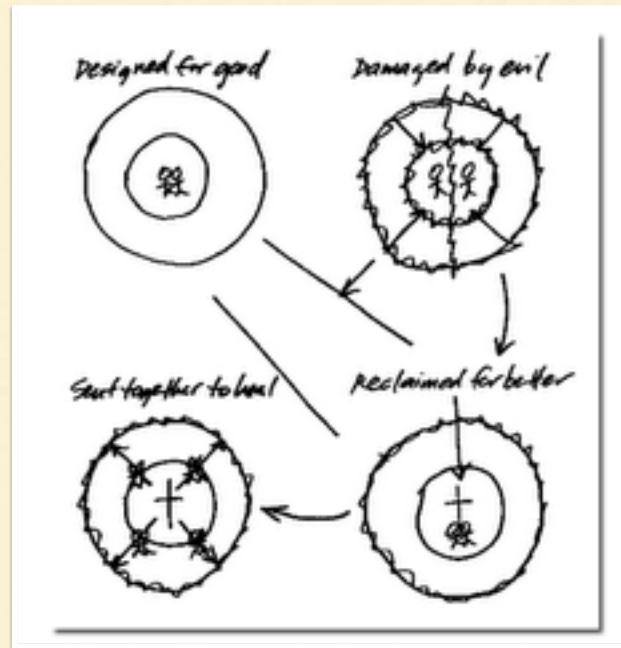
“O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, And speaks truth in his heart.” (Psalms 15:1–2)



Jesus refers to an aspect of God as “the Spirit of Truth” - ““I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.”“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.”“He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.” (John 16:12–14 NAS95)



Christ is a perfect example of such a character. He says: "I have kept My Father's commandments." "I do always those things that please Him." John 15:10; 8:29. The followers of Christ are to become like Him--by the grace of God to form characters in harmony with the principles of His holy law. This is Bible sanctification. {GC 469.2} This work can be accomplished only through faith in Christ, by the power of the indwelling Spirit of God. The Great Controversy pg. 469



James Choung's Diagram of the Gospel

James Choung - "So what does this mean? Most people ache for a better world. But our universal ache speaks of something more. Just like hunger points to food and thirst points to water, so our universal ache for a better world means that such a world either once existed or will one day exist."

- “The world will be convinced, not by what the pulpit teaches, but by what the church lives. The minister in the desk announces the theory of the gospel; the practical piety of the church demonstrates its power.” {RH, January 20, 1903 par. 12}

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The Soul's Appeal to God for Truth

“TEACH ME YOUR WAY, O LORD; I WILL WALK IN YOUR TRUTH; UNITE MY HEART TO FEAR YOUR NAME. I WILL PRAISE YOU, O LORD MY GOD, WITH ALL MY HEART, AND I WILL GLORIFY YOUR NAME FOREVERMORE.” (PSALMS 86:11–12 NKJV)



“Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name. I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore.” (Psalms 86:11–12 NKJV)



Imagine being chosen to play a game with no rules, no clock, no referee, & no scoreboard, how would you go about it? Would you ask your team-mates, but wait, no teams, either? This is what the devil is attempting to deceive most people with, the idea of Pluralism and Relativism which suggests “all paths are equally valid, and that all religions are saying basically the same thing”; but this can not be true!

## PLURALISM



- Speaking of students in universities who espouse pluralism - “They believed in objective truth but wanted to say that we are all grasping at that truth in equally valid ways.” - Jesus Among Secular Gods pg. 94

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Reliance on Maps when traveling to an unknown destination -

Description: World map published in 1625 by Jodocus Hondius (1563-1612) a Flemish artist, engraver and cartographer.



““And you know the way where I am going.”Thomas \*said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” Jesus \*said to him, “**I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.**“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.”” (John 14:4–7 NAS95)

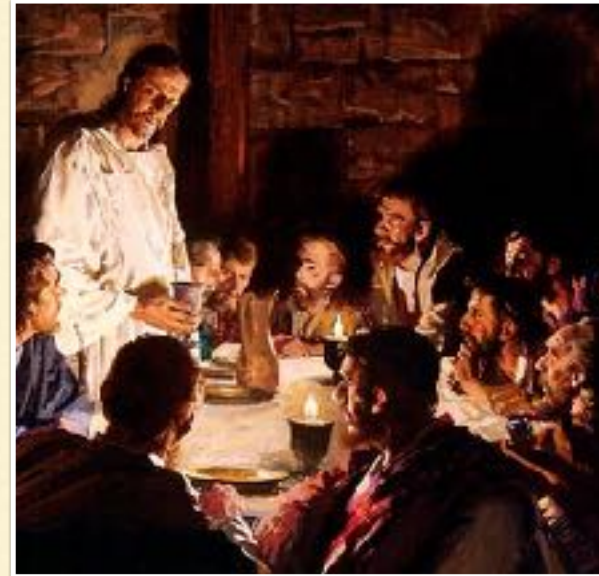


- “To the young men and young women who are being educated as nurses and physicians, I would say, Keep close to Jesus. By beholding Him you will become changed into His likeness. . . . You may have a theoretical knowledge of the truth, but this will not save you. You must know by experience how sinful sin is and how much you need Jesus as a personal Saviour. Only thus can you become sons and daughters of God. Your only merit is your great need.” {Medical Ministry pg. 217}

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**Appeal Story** - “Telling The Robbers”

When the father of the great Emmanuel Kant was an old man he made a perilous journey through the forests of Poland to his native country of Silesia. On the way he encountered a band of robbers who demanded all his valuables, finally asking: “Have you given us all?” and only letting him go when he answered, “All.” When safely out of their sight his hand touched something hard in the hem of his robe. It was his gold, sewn there for safety and quite forgotten by him in his fear and confusion.

At once he hurried back to find the robbers, and having found them, he said meekly: “I have told you what was not true; it was unintentional. I was too terrified to think. Here, take the gold in my robes.” Then to the old man’s astonishment nobody offered to take his gold. Presently one went and brought back his purse. Another restored his book of prayer, while still another led his horse toward him and helped him to mount. They then unitedly entreated his blessing, and watched him slowly ride away. Goodness had triumphed over evil.

—J. A. Clark

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Next Sabbath - He Taught Love based on John 13:35