

THE BOOK OF JOB
JOB 16:5

INTRODUCTION:

1. Job teaches strategies on how to remain faithful.
2. In the second round of speeches, Job responds to Eliphaz who denounced his claims of innocence. (Job 15.3,10,20)

I. TRUST IN YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

- A. Job believed that he was right with God.
 1. **JOB 17.3:** *“put down a pledge for me with Yourself.*
 2. Pledge: A guarantee, surety. (cf. Prov. 6.1)
 3. Only God could attest to his righteousness. (Job 17.3)
- B. I can know that I am right with God.
 1. **ROMANS 8.31-34:** God attests to my righteousness.
 2. I am made right by God through faith. (Rom. 5.1)
 3. Knowing I am right, I have hope. (Rom. 5.2)

II. TRUST IN THE PROCESS

- A. Hardships make the righteous stronger.
 1. **JOB 17.6-8:** The suffering of Job.
 2. **JOB 17.9:** *“Yet the righteous will hold to his way...”*
- B. To endure hardships, I need to trust in the process.
 1. Trials prove the *“genuineness of your faith”* (1 Pet. 1.6,7)
 2. The process of making us better. (Rom. 5.3,4)

III. TRUST IN THE FUTURE

- A. Job looked forward to the life to come.
 1. **JOB 17.13-16:** *“If I hope for Sheol as my house”*
 2. In context, his friends offered him hope on the condition that he repented. (Job 17.12; 11.13,14,17)
 3. The only hope that mattered. (Job 17.15)
- B. During hardships, remember that there is something better.
 1. What are your goals? (Phil. 3.14; Job 17.14)
 2. **ROMANS 5.5:** *“Hope does not disappoint”*

CONCLUSION: Hope belongs only to the faithful.

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

February 18, 2024

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:00 PM

BEING THE RIGHT PERSON

Socrates once said, “By all means marry. If you get a good wife, you’ll be happy. If you get a bad one, then you can become a philosopher.”

Many see a successful marriage dependent on finding the right spouse. And most couples will name the other as the root of all their marital problems. However, marriage is not about finding the right person. It is about being the right person. It is important to find someone who is compatible, a successful marriage begins when each is focused on being the best spouse they can be rather than wanting their spouse to be what they hoped they would want.

Instead of pointing out the flaws of your spouse, give some thought to becoming a better communicator, being more affectionate, or being more honest. When you are not happy with the behavior of your spouse, it is time to honestly assess your own behavior and consider if your spouse is happy with you.

The happiest of all marriages is when both husband and wife act not out of *“selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind esteem the other better than himself”* (Phil. 2.4). Marriage isn’t about being served. It is about committing to serve your spouse. Only then can marriage be what God intended.

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST **FEBRUARY 18, 2024**
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THE TRUTH THAT MAKES YOU FREE

JOHN 8:32

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible makes reference to two kinds of truth.
 - a) Truth refers to honesty. (Col. 3.9; Phil. 1.18)
 - b) Truth refers to the word of God. (1 Pet. 1.22)
2. John 8.31,32: Jesus uses the phrase, “My word” and “the truth” synonymously. But what is the truth that makes you free?

I. THE SOURCE OF TRUTH

- A. The truth was not known before Jesus. (John 1.14,17)
- B. The truth was not part of the Law of Moses.
 1. The Law of Moses was abolished. (Eph. 2.15; Col. 2.14)
 2. The Law of Moses vs the truth. (John 1.17)
- C. The truth is not found in the philosophies of men.
 1. **JEREMIAH 10.23:** *“the way of man is not in himself”*
 2. Our culture does not decide right and wrong.

II. THE THREE PHASES OF TRUTH

- A. Truth is made known to us through the life of Jesus.
 1. **JOHN 1.18:** *“He has declared Him.”*
 2. Jesus is the truth. (John 14.6,9)
- B. Truth is made known to us through the teachings of Jesus.
 1. **JOHN 7.16:** *“My doctrine is...His who sent Me”*
 2. **JOHN 12.48-50:** *“the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak”*
- C. Truth is made known to us through the revelation of Jesus.
 1. **JOHN 16.13,14:** Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to *“guide you into all truth...whatever He hears He will speak”*
 2. **EPHESIANS 3.5:** *“it has now been revealed by the Spirit”*

III. THE AUTHORITY OF THE TRUTH

- A. The life of Jesus is authoritative.
 1. **1 CORINTHIANS 11.1:** *“Imitate me as also I imitate Christ”*
 2. **PHILIPPIANS 2.5,7,8:** We are to have the mind of Christ.
 3. **1 PETER 2.21-23:** Christ is our example.
- B. The teachings of Jesus are authoritative. (Matt. 28.18-20)
- C. The revelation of Jesus is authoritative.
 1. **1 CORINTHIANS 4.6:** Do not go beyond what is written.
 2. **2 TIMOTHY 2.15:** The word of truth is to be studied.

CONCLUSION: Only through the truth can we be set free.

ARE YOU LIKE SAUL OR DAVID?

It is not sinless perfection that makes us right with God. It is true that sin separates us from God (Isa. 59.2). It is true that everyone makes an occasional mistake either by ignorance or weakness (Heb. 9.7; Ps. 19.12). But what makes the difference between one who received the mercy of God and the one who is cast away from God? It is the way we deal with the sin in our lives. Some may address their sin as Saul did. Others may address their sin as David did. How do you handle it?

On the surface, Saul and David were very similar. Both were kings over the people of God (1 Sam. 15.1; Matt. 1.6). Both made terrible mistakes. Saul offered unauthorized sacrifices (1 Sam. 13.11-15). Saul failed to destroy the Amalekites (1 Sam. 15.18,19). Most of us are familiar with the egregious errors of David. The inspired writers did not cover up his sins. His adultery with Bathsheba and his murdering of Bathsheba's husband are clearly detailed in the historical record (2 Sam. 11).

Both Saul and David sinned but consider how God felt toward them. Of Saul, God said, *“I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned his back from following me, and has not performed My commandments”* (1 Sam. 15.11). Of David, God said, *“I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart”* (Acts 13.22). Both of these men committed atrocious sins. Yet David was a man after the heart of God. Saul was a man who grieved the heart of God. Why did God feel differently about two men who both sinned?

Consider how Saul addressed his sin. First, he denied it. He declared to Samuel, *“I have performed the commandment of the Lord”* (1 Sam. 15.13). But he did not, for Samuel could still hear the livestock Saul was commanded to destroy (1 Sam. 15.14). Second, he shifted blame. Saul did not take responsibility but said, *“They have brought them from the Amalekites”* (1 Sam. 15.15). Third, Saul made excuses for his sin. He explained to Samuel that his reasoning for keeping the livestock is *“to sacrifice to the Lord your God”* (1 Sam. 15.15). He further excused his behavior by saying that *“I have sinned...because I feared the people”* (1 Sam. 15.24).

In contrast, how did David address his sin? After Nathan the prophet exposed David's sin, he did not deny it. He did not rationalize it. He did not shift blame. David said, *“I have sinned against the Lord”* (2 Sam. 12.13). Turning to Psalm 51, David wrote about how he felt when his sin came fully to his attention. He begged for God's mercy and forgiveness (Ps. 51.1,2). He took responsibility for his sin (Ps. 51.3,4). He felt deeply sorrowful for his sin (Ps. 51.5,6). He wanted to change (Ps. 51.10,11). Maybe that is why Saul was rejected as king. But to David, Nathan said, *“The Lord has also put away your sin”* (2 Sam. 12.13).

If you want the mercy and forgiveness of God, do not have the attitude of Saul. Have the contrite heart of David. (Isa. 57.15; Matt. 5.4). CLP