

## TRUTH THAT STANDS THE TEST OF TIME

### Part 1: God is Faithful

June 7, 2020

**Discussion Question:** In a day of strife, confusion and every form of evil what truths have you learned that stand no matter what is happening?

#### INTRODUCTION:

We have come through another season of lies, half-truths and propaganda. Confusion on every side. But spiritual people are to be aware: 1 Cor 14:33 *"God is not the author of confusion, but of peace..."* [KJV]

For the next several weeks we are going to look at some truths that stand the test of time Prov 12:19 *"Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment."* [ESV]

Vs. 19 – 20 [TLB] *"Truth stands the test of time; lies are soon exposed. 20 Deceit fills hearts that are plotting for evil; joy fills hearts that are planning for good!"* [TLB]

Time is a great test of truth. Ideas, ideologies, theories & lifestyle choices can be very persuasive and enticing at even given time of history. However, over time those are assessed. There are many examples of this. Parenting choices; business decisions; changes in church structures, etc.

Some decisions take years for what is false to be known. A great example is the communism that was implement in Russia in 1917. Over a 70-year period the flaws in the system were revealed, while all the time it appeared to be a dominate philosophy of how to govern.

The scriptures have been around a long time. And they have been tested in more ways than I can enumerate. Once again, we come to a time where loving my brother as myself is being tested again. **Will this stand the test of time?**

Truth is always tested, undermined, and yes even attacked. Humans are capable of denying the most obvious basic truths in our world. Creation, Race & Sexuality for example:

- Creation: People can look at the beauty and incredible environmental systems in our world and still deny a Creator.
- Race & Sexuality: Ravi Zacharias states it so well: "Here is what I want to say to you. The reason that we believe that discrimination ethnically is wrong is because the race and ethnicity of a person is sacred. My race is sacred; your race is sacred. You do not violate a person's ethnicity and race. It is a sacred gift. And the reason we believe in an absoluteness to sexuality is because we believe sexuality is sacred as well."

The people of God need to remain firm and steadfast in our beliefs. But our beliefs have to be ones that stand the test of time.

In the our Declaration of Independence the preamble starts with, *"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*

Truths simple imply statements that are true, and they are always true.

## **TODAY: God is Faithful**

2 Tim 2:11-13 *"The saying is trustworthy (faithful saying, KJV), for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; 13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself."* [ESV]

When we speak of someone being faithful, we are looking at someone that is **dependable; it is to build up or support; to foster as a parent or nurse; figuratively to render (or be) firm**. It means "**to be certain, enduring; to trust, believe.**"

An interesting side note is that from the Hebrew word there are three thoughts & words derived from the root word (aman) the words amen, true and faithfulness

In the Greek we get the thoughts of **trustworthy, true, sure & reliable**.

I want to work off of these meanings to remind us of this timeless truth about God's Character:

### **1. Dependable & Reliable**

God is a reliable source of information. HE is worthy of trust and belief because HE gives a true report. HE is an experienced and trustworthy traveling companion! HE is consistent in HIS behavior.

### **2. Certain & Sure**

When we say something is certain we speak of something that is fixed; it is definite; Sure to come; established beyond a doubt or question; Indisputable. HE is not subject to change.

Psalms 119:89-90 *"For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven. 90 Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth."* [KJV]

### **3. Enduring**

To endure is to carry on through, despite hardships; to continue in existence; to last; does not yield. It is to put up with something difficult, annoying or painful.

God is faithful... we are told that:

- HIS mercy endures, HIS truth endures, HIS goodness endures, HIS righteousness endures, HIS praise endures, HIS Kingdom endures

1 Peter 1:24-25 *"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."* [KJV]

### **4. True**

If something is true it is consistent with fact or reality. It is real and genuine; It is opposed to what is fictitious, counterfeit, imaginary, simulated, pretended

Rev 3:13 *"And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;"* [KJV]