

Only the Truth Can Save One from Sin

Marvin Weir

Bible truth cannot be destroyed. Skeptics and haters of the Word of God have tried for years to destroy truth. God's Word, however, "ABIDETH FOR EVER" (**1 Peter 1:25**). Jesus clearly states that "HEAVEN AND EARTH SHALL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS SHALL NOT PASS AWAY" (**Matthew 24:35**). The truths Christ taught do not change from society to society or with the passing of time. One can reject and run from the Word of God, but he cannot hide from it. Jesus says, "HE THAT REJECTETH ME, AND RECEIVETH NOT MY SAYINGS, HATH ONE THAT JUDGETH HIM: THE WORD THAT I SPAKE, THE SAME SHALL JUDGE HIM IN THE LAST DAY" (**John 12:48**). The Bible says, "THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH" (**Romans 6:23**). Error cannot free one from the bondage of sin. This is the reason truth is so precious and important. The words of the Savior will ring for an eternity in the ears of those who refuse to heed and hear. "JESUS THEREFORE SAID TO THOSE JEWS THAT HAD BELIEVED HIM, IF YE ABIDE IN MY WORD, THEN ARE YE TRULY MY DISCIPLES; AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE" (**John 8:31-32**). Please note that it is the truth and not perversions, speculations, feelings, or partial truth that saves one from sin. One must not make light of or refuse to abide by God's Word — the "TRUTH" (**John 17:17**).

One is not saved just because he believes he is saved. One is a child of God (Christian) only when he chooses to obey and abide in the Word of God. Acting upon feelings is not the same thing as acting upon God's Word. In fact, the wise man warned, "THERE IS A WAY WHICH SEEMETH RIGHT UNTO A MAN; BUT THE END THEREOF ARE THE WAYS OF DEATH" (**Proverbs 14:12**). Countless millions of people believe they are "right with God," but they have never obeyed the gospel of Christ. There are not many gospels, and a perversion of the gospel will not save a single soul. Paul warns, "I MARVEL THAT YE ARE SO QUICKLY REMOVING FROM HIM THAT CALLED YOU IN THE GRACE OF CHRIST UNTO A DIFFERENT GOSPEL; WHICH IS NOT ANOTHER GOSPEL ONLY THERE ARE SOME THAT TROUBLE YOU, AND WOULD PERVERT THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. BUT THOUGH WE, OR AN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN, SHOULD PREACH UNTO YOU ANY GOSPEL OTHER THAN THAT WHICH WE PREACHED UNTO YOU, LET HIM BE ANATHEMA" (**Galatians 1:6-8**). Thus, one must know, believe, and obey the truth to be saved. Belief, in and of itself, will not save one. Jesus clearly states that one must "ABIDE" in truth (**John 8:31**).

Only the Truth Can Save One from Sin

Marvin Weir

One is not saved just because he believes in his family's religion. Many people choose to worship as they do today simply because it is the way their family has always worshipped. Do not forget the words of Joshua to his people: "AND IF IT SEEM EVIL UNTO YOU TO SERVE JEHOVAH, CHOOSE YOU THIS DAY WHOM YE WILL SERVE; WHETHER THE GODS WHICH YOUR FATHERS SERVED THAT WERE BEYOND THE RIVER, OR THE GODS OF THE AMORITES, IN WHOSE LAND YE DWELL: BUT AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE JEHOVAH" (**Joshua 24:15**). The apostle Paul could not support family tradition and be pleasing to God. Paul says, "I ADVANCED IN THE JEWS' RELIGION BEYOND MANY OF MINE OWN AGE AMONG MY COUNTRYMEN, BEING MORE EXCEEDINGLY ZEALOUS FOR THE TRADITIONS OF MY FATHERS" (**Galatians 1:14**). To follow family religion in stead of the Word of God is to honor family more than God.

It is imperative that one find the truth as truth is the only thing that can free one from the bondage of sin (**John 8:32**). Where will truth be found? Truth is not found in the contradicting and ever-changing creeds of men. Can "truth" be true one year and false the next year? This is the plight of all man-made creeds that people are encouraged to follow. Each year boards, councils, and synods meet to vote out "old" laws and vote in "new" laws.

God's truth is not revealed in the creeds of men. Paul, speaking by inspiration, declares, "BUT WE RECEIVED, NOT THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD, BUT THE SPIRIT WHICH IS FROM GOD; THAT WE MIGHT KNOW THE THINGS THAT WERE FREELY GIVEN TO US OF GOD. WHICH THINGS ALSO WE SPEAK, NOT IN WORDS WHICH MAN'S WISDOM TEACHETH, BUT WHICH THE SPIRIT TEACHETH; COMBINING SPIRITUAL THINGS WITH SPIRITUAL WORDS" (**1 Corinthians 2:12-13**). Christ has all authority today (**Matthew 28:18**), and He speaks to us through the inspired Word of God (**Hebrews 1:1-2**).

One will never be loyal to Christ without being loyal to His Word. This is why Jesus said, "AND WHY CALL YE ME, LORD, LORD, AND DO NOT THE THINGS WHICH I SAY" (Luke 6:46)? It is the height of hypocrisy to acknowledge Jesus as Lord and ruler and refuse to abide in His Word.

Will you yield to and obey the truth found in the Word of God? This is the most important question you will ever answer. The destiny of your soul depends upon your answer. Remember that Jesus said, "NOT EVERY ONE THAT SAITH UNTO ME, LORD, LORD, SHALL ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN; BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN" (**Matthew 7:21, *emph. MLW***).