

# We Will or Have all Faced This

- *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 2 Tim 4:3-4*
- Has that time ever come for you?
- Sometimes it lasts a few moments...
- .... A few days .... A few years ... A lifetime...

# Love Truth Until It Costs Too Much

- *Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"*
- *20 You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" 21 And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."*
- *These made sense ... Did not cost him anything...*
- *... You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." 23 But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. Lk 18:18-23*

# We Have All Felt That Sorrow

- That initial sinking feeling when the truth crashes into something near and dear to our heart:
- Entertainment: Drinking, Gambling, Violent TV programs; immodest, jealousy and envy soaps.
- Job: violates Scripture; Finances: give more than 10%
- Leisure Time: Every Service... Read Bible, Pray
- Hobbies: Too much time, money, immoral...
- Marriage and Family ... Love Father or Mother, etc.
- Social standing ... put you out of the synagogue.
- What do we / have we done?
- It affects conscience, zeal and integrity.
- But a fable is a fable ... no matter how small.

# We Become Ripe for the Harvest

- *with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because **they did not receive the love of the truth**, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2Th. 2:9-12*
- We have all seen it ... maybe didn't recognize it.
- When people leave truth there is always a reason
- Something cost more than they wanted to pay.
- The sold the truth
- **Buy the truth, and do not sell it**, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding. Prov 23:23

# The Driving Force and Motivation


- Behind idolatry... people worship another God so they can reject God's commands
- Denominations; people leave the Lord's church so they can reject Jesus' commands.
- Reject inspiration: so they can do what the Holy Spirit through the apostles forbids.
- Go onward and abide not in the teachings of Christ.
- Once we start down that road it goes on and on and we will drift farther and farther away.

# The Driving Force Away from Truth

- *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, **who suppress the truth in unrighteousness**, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. Rom 1:18-20*
- ***who exchanged the truth of God for the lie**, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. Rom 1:25*



# Our Greatest Challenge

- Must abide in Jesus word in order to know the truth and for the truth to make us free.
  - *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31-32*
  - Whatever the sacrifice it must be paid in order to abide in His word. The truth cannot make us free if we do not abide in it. The greater the sacrifice the more love for truth.
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# Everyone Has a Love for the Truth!

Some of the Time

When it pleases, benefits

When It helps / brings success



# Truth Matters No Matter what the Cost

- Courts: if innocent truth, whole truth, nothing but truth
- Hospital – Truth Diagnosis; Surgery True leg/arm
- Pharmacy – Right medication doseage
- Auto shop – right part, color, size, etc.
- Restaurant – right ingredients properly cooked
- Manufacturer– Exact measurements / specs
- Sports – Referees Umpires – enforce fair play
- Banks – Money handled accurately
- Stocks – Right Stocks that make money.
- All love the truth when it works for our benefit / favor.

- Truth matters! When:
- only one thing will work.
- it keeps us from making mistakes
- it saves time, money and lives.
  
- Does it Matter when it pleases God?
- When it honors Christ?
- When it submits to the Holy Spirit?
- Thus When it matters MOST???

# Truth or Consequences

- **Adam & Eve**
- **Cain & Abel**
- **Noah & Ancient World**
- **Jesus – Truth will make  
you free Jn 8:31-32**

# The Incongruity

Scientist/Engineer/Banker/Doctor/etc.

Works all week seeking God's exact standards so they can be successful.

Then goes to worship God with no interest at all in God's exact standards.

Same God who created physics, anatomy, and chemistry, wrote the Bible.

Expects us to approach both of them exactly the same way.

# Truth Matters ... With God

- *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.  
1 Tim 2:3-5*
- *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim 2:15-16*
- *Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, 20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins. James 5:19-20*

# Do we Study the Bible; Listen to Sermons; Make Applications

- getting change for a \$20.
- balancing our checking account.
- a police officer is following us.
- the doctor is assessing us.
- taking prescription medication
- cooking, sewing, cutting material.
- a foul is called against our team.
- *And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, and ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Rom 12:2*

# A Genuine Love for the Truth

- God wants us to know the truth. 2Tim 2:2-3
- He wants us to be diligent to rightly divide it. II Tim 2:15
- Only truth can set us free. Jn 8:24
- God cannot lie and hates all deception. Heb 6:17-18; Pr 6:16-19
- Satan is the father of all lies. Jn 8:44
- We have to choose.

# God is Watching

- It is obvious to him when we are more interested in our own benefits from truth.
- He tests us to find out.
- Chose things to make us choose: I Cor 1:26-29
- *The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his deeds Jer 17:9-10*



# An Ever Repeating Cycle

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- ***Buy the truth, and do not sell it***, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding. Prov 23:23
- No matter what the cost to us here and now.
- We will regret for all eternity if we sell the truth.
- When our ears start to itch ... crush it!!!