

# Truth

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:32  
(KJV 1900):

Lately it seems that certain human commodities like patience and truth have been in short supply. While the nation waited on the final ballot counting in our recent presidential election, the patience of its citizenry was sorely tested. With the outcome finally certain, we now have to deal with baseless lies about reports of voter fraud and conspiracies to steal the election from the outgoing administration.

Unfortunately, baseless lies are not a new phenomenon nor a by-product of the election results. Baseless lies have been the cornerstone of this current administration. For the past four years, lying has been so much a part of what has been told to the American people until a whole new industry of fact checkers has been created just to handle the overwhelming preponderance of lies. This should be alarming, but the reality is that it has become commonplace. What makes this so disconcerting is what this says about the condition of we the people, the recipients of the preponderance of lies. We literally have, been held hostage by these lies and

the result has put our very lives in mortal danger.

There is only one antidote for lies and that antidote is **Truth**. In our scripture text for today Jesus teaches us about the liberating power of **Truth**: *“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*

It has been said that “there are non-so deaf as they who refuse to hear and non-so blind as they who refuse to see.” Such was the case of the Jews at the time that Jesus uttered these words of scripture. Jesus was in the temple teaching. His audience was a mix of potential believers (those who marveled at His teachings

and as a result became followers). Then there were those who were believers in name only (Those who wanted the benefits by association, but without any real commitment) and those who just outright hated Him (the naysayers and critics who did their very best to discredit Jesus). It was clear that they were jealous of Him even though it was obvious to them that He must be the fulfilment of the prophets. They said that he was the devil and that the works that He did were of the devil. Of course none of what they alleged was true, but they were convinced that if they could heckle long enough and loud enough either He would get discouraged and quit or those

who were beginning to believe Him would get discouraged and fall away. The tragedy was that these naysayers were the ones guilty of the very things they were accusing Jesus of.

They did not realize that being harbingers of lies is like having an ever tightening noose around one's neck constantly squeezing out the life. Only the **Truth** (The Word of God) can sever that noose, thus freeing one from lies and their evil influence. There still are those who subscribe to the thought process that says if you tell a lie often enough it will become the truth. Unfortunately the old adage is true that you can fool some of the people some of the time. This is

especially true for those who are addicted to lying, but It is equally true that you can't fool all the people all the time. Eventually the **Truth** will prevail. And this was the lesson that Jesus was sharing with His new followers. Unlike the ones in name only who were not really committed, they wanted his healing, they wanted him to feed them. But making a long term commitment, not so much! Jesus let them all know that if they continued in His word, if they were truly committed with all of their heart , soul, and sinew, they would indeed be his disciples and the **Truth** would emancipate them from the evils of sin. Well my brothers and sisters, after four

years of nothing but lies, it is now time for us to embrace the **Truth**. What **Truth**? First and foremost that God is and that He is still in control. He has allowed us to see what Godlessness looks like and that without Him we can do **Nothing**! That is **Truth**! Preston Perry an up and coming theologian says “Believe the **Truth** even when everything around you says otherwise.” We may be bombarded with lies, but continue to believe the Truth, What Truth; that with God all things are possible. What Truth? That No weapon formed against us will prosper. What Truth” That God with us is more than the world against us! What Truth; I may be troubled on every side, but not

distressed, Perplexed but not in despair,  
persecuted, but not forsaken, Cast down  
but not destroyed, How is this possible  
you ask? Because I know the **Truth!** And  
Jesus has said and ye shall know the  
**Truth** and the **Truth** shall make you free!