

THE TRUTH OF GOD

INTRODUCTION

In the courtroom, we swear under oath to tell the truth, parents demand their children to tell the truth, we make vows and promises to be true and we respect those who are truthful.

When Jesus stood in the judgment hall, as He was offering Himself to die for the sins of the world. He said to Pilate, *You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.* And Pilate said to Him, *What is truth* (John 18:37, 38a)? Pilate did not wait for the answer.

What is truth? Throughout the ages, philosophers have been concerned with that question. Plato and his followers believed that an absolute truth existed, along with absolute justice, and that the truth of men on earth was only a shadow or poor reflection of absolute truth. Since then, philosophies of the world have changed from belief in absolute truth to situational ethics, which says that there is no absolute truth or absolute right or wrong. Rather, truth is relative and depends upon individual situations, circumstances, beliefs and people.

Truth is an attribute¹ of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is one of His divine titles. Jesus declared, *I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me* (John 14:6). He is and His words are absolute truth!

THEME SCRIPTURE

If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free (John 8:31b, 32).

¹ attribute: any expression or revelation of God's divine nature or character.

SECTION I – Definitions

1. WRITE your own definition of *truth*. _____

Dictionary Definition

The dictionary definition of *truth* is correctness, sincerity, all openness, honesty, fidelity, frankness, exactness, authenticity, infallibility, perfection, certainty, genuineness, accuracy, fact.

Biblical Definitions

The Hebrew word for God’s truth is *emeth*: stability, certainty, truth, trustworthiness, assured, established, faithful, right, sure, verity.

The Greek word for God’s truth is *aletheia*; truth, verity.

Other Definitions

In his book, Knowing God, J. I. Packard says, “Truth in the Bible . . . means stability, reliability, firmness, trustworthiness, the quality of a person who is entirely self-consistent, sincere, realistic, and undeceived. God is such a person; truth in this sense, is His nature, and He does not have it in Him to be anything else. That is why He cannot lie. That is why His words to us are true, and cannot be other than true. They are the index of reality: they show us things as they really are, and as they will be for us in the future, according to whether we heed God’s words to us or not.”

Scripture Descriptions

2. READ the following Scriptures and UNDERLINE the words or phrases that describe that God is truth.

Deut. 32:4 *He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He.*

Psalm 31:5 *Into Your [the Father] hand I [Jesus] commit My Spirit; You have redeemed Me, O LORD God of truth.*

John 14:6 *I AM [Jesus] the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

John 17:17 *Sanctify them [His disciples] by Your truth. Your Word is truth.*

I John 5:6b *And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.*

3. LOOK UP the following Scriptures and MATCH the reference to its description of God's Truth.

- | | |
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| _____ God's truth is abounding | a. Exodus 34:6 |
| _____ God's truth reaches to the clouds | b. Psalm 33:4 |
| _____ God's truth endures forever | c. Psalm 57:10 |
| _____ God's truth endures to all generations | d. Psalm 91:4 |
| _____ God's truth exhibited in His ways | e. Psalm 100:5 |
| _____ God's truth is a shield and buckler ² to saints | f. Psalm 117:2 |
| _____ God's truth exhibited in His works | g. Revelation 15:3 |

4. What did you learn about God's truth from these Scriptures? _____

PERSONAL

God is truth. How has what you have learned from the Scriptures changed your understanding of truth?

SECTION II – Old Testament Prophecy Fulfilled in the New Testament

1. READ the following Scriptures and WRITE how the Old Testament's prophetic³ truth regarding the birth of Christ was fulfilled in the New Testament.
- a. Isaiah 7:14 _____

² buckler: a versatile shield that protects the vital organs.

³ prophetic: God's truth foretold by holy men of God who spoke being moved by the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:18-25 _____

b. Micah 5:2 _____

Matthew 2:1-6 _____

c. Hosea 11:1 _____

Matthew 2:13-15 _____

d. Isaiah 9:6, 7 _____

Luke 1:32-35 _____

PERSONAL

What revealed truth amazed you? Why? _____

2. WRITE how the Old Testament prophetic truth regarding the crucifixion of Christ was fulfilled in the New Testament Gospels.⁴

a. Isaiah 53:3-5 _____

Mark 14:62-65 and Mark 15:16-20 _____

b. Isaiah 53:7 _____

Matthew 27:11-14, Mark 15:1-5, Luke 23:8, 9, and John 19:8-10 _____

c. Isaiah 53:9 _____

Matthew 27:57-60 _____

d. Isaiah 53:12 _____

Luke 22:37 and Luke 23:32, 33 _____

e. Psalm 22:1 _____

⁴ Gospels: the four books in the Bible (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) that contain the story of Jesus Christ the Savior of the world; His birth, His life, His death, and His resurrection.

Matthew 27:45, 46 and Mark 15:33, 34 _____

f. Psalm 22:6-8 _____

Matthew 27:39-44 _____

g. Psalm 22:14, 15 _____

John 19:28-30 _____

h. Psalm 22:16, 17 _____

John 19:34-37 _____

i. Psalm 22:18 _____

Mark 15:24, 25 and John 19:23, 24 _____

j. Psalm 34:20 _____

John 19:31-34 _____

k. Zechariah 11:12, 13 _____

Matthew 27:3-10 _____

SECTION III – Scriptural References of God’s Truth

MATCH the Bible reference with the Scripture.

1. Promises to those who long for the truth, speak the truth, and abide in His truth.

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|-----------------------|---|
| _____ Psalm 15:1, 2 | a. mercy and truth shall be to them that do good |
| _____ Psalm 25:10 | b. he that speaks truth, declares righteousness |
| _____ Psalm 145:18 | c. by mercy and truth iniquity is atoned |
| _____ Proverbs 3:3, 4 | d. all of God’s paths are truth to those that keep His Law |
| _____ Proverbs 12:17 | e. the lips of truth shall be established forever |
| _____ Proverbs 12:19 | f. those who forsake not truth find favor and good understanding with God and man |
| _____ Proverbs 14:22 | g. God is near to those that call Him in truth |
| _____ Proverbs 16:6 | h. he who speaks truth, will abide in God’s tabernacle and holy hill |

2. God desires His truth in us and exhorts us to find it.

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|-----------------------|--|
| _____ Psalm 51:6 | a. God exhorts us to buy and sell His truth |
| _____ Proverbs 8:6, 7 | b. God directs our work with His truth |
| _____ Proverbs 23:23 | c. God calls us to listen to His truth |
| _____ Isaiah 61:8 | d. God desires His truth in our inward parts |

3. The Scriptures below have one truth in common. LOOK them up and WRITE that one truth.

Numbers 23:19
I Samuel 15:29⁵

Titus 1:2
Hebrews 6:18

SECTION IV – Lies, Falsehood, Deception

The dictionary definition of the opposite of *truth* is untruth, lies, falsehood, deceit, deception, and dishonesty.

LOOK UP the following Scriptures to answer each question.

1. How does Jesus describe Satan (John 8:44)? _____

⁵ Strength of Israel: Divine title of God; source of everlasting strength to His chosen ones.

2. How is Satan described in Revelation 12:10? _____

PERSONAL

How have lies affected you and those you love? _____

3. What is the fate of deceivers and liars?

Psalm 63:11b _____

Proverbs 19:5 _____

Revelation 21:8 _____

4. What is an abomination to the LORD (Proverbs 12:22)? _____

Who is the LORD's delight? _____

5. DESCRIBE man's heart (Jeremiah 17:9, 10). _____

How does God deal with man's heart? _____

6. What did Christ promise to believers (John 14:16-18)? _____

How does this promise comfort you? _____

PERSONAL

What will you do to seek God's truth in your life? _____

THEME SCRIPTURE

WRITE the THEME SCRIPTURE.

(John 8:31b, 32).

*Oh, send out Your light and Your truth!
Let them lead me;
Let them bring me to Your holy hill
And to Your tabernacle.*

Psalm 43:3

NOTES: _____

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Due to the holy nature of God, the first letter of all references to Him,
His holy name, and His Word have been capitalized.

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