

Midweek Lenten Service #6 April 1st, 2020

Message based on this text: (John 18:38). WHAT IS TRUTH? RETORTED PILATE. WITH THIS HE WENT OUT AGAIN TO THE JEWS GATHERED THERE AND SAID, I FIND NO BASIS FOR A CHARGE AGAINST THIS MAN. This is the Word of God.

Fellow precious children of God,

Truth. Are we hearing everything about health? Do we hear only about deaths from the virus and not about those who have recovered and now healthy? What is truth?

Just like during war countries look for allies. Other countries they want to be on their side. Some one to team up with. Exactly what happened here. Allies of the devil questioned the truth of God's Word. Our warrior Jesus faced this in his ministry as he defended the truth of his holy Word. He fended it because he know we depend on it.

1. God's truth under attack. There Jesus stands in front of the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. Pilate asked him if he was a king. This would make the Roman government angry. Jesus answered, YOU SAY THAT I AM A KING, IN FACT, THE REASON I WAS BORN AND CAME INTO THE WORLD IS TO TESTIFY TO THE TRUTH. EVERYONE ON THE SIDE OF TRUTH LISTENS TO ME.

Jesus is taking sides! On side is the truth; the other side is the lie. The world around us accepts Satan's lies as well as

the world's. The world in which we live is damaged and sinful. We see people parade ungodly solutions to what is wrong with the world. We should not be surprised, because the world thinks that Jesus and his Word are foolish. The world, the devil's ally, wants nothing to do with Jesus. I admit I have bitten off some of those lies and ½ swallowed them with Music, books, tv, a sear buds go to my head and heart. My guard goes down. Most of the lies are based on feelings instead of the truth.

What is truth, asked Pilate? These are words of a trapped man. Pilate echoes the voice of his world and ours. Trapped in a lie Pilate could not even see truth even though it was staring right in the face.

2. Our hero Jesus is the truth. The answer to Pilate's question is always the same. Jesus is truth. HE SAYS, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THRU ME. John 14:6 Only Jesus word is truth-

Jesus never said, I suppose. I am guessing. Or I hope so. Or possibly. He only said, Verily, or truly, I tell you. The Bible hold everything we need for life, to live freely from guilt and death's awful curse-without the fear of punishment-but especially to live forever in eternity with him.

Our world is broken. We see it and know it. People hate. Nature kills. Storms damage. Viruses take lives. Death stalks us. I do the evil I should not. Some have come up with ideas to fix this mess. All have failed. Except Jesus Christ!

God loved the world that he planned to rescue this sin damaged world. His Son came to tell us the whole truth and to be the truth that would battle-sin, death, and the power of the devil. Satan and a world that hates him. This is the sacred truth we believe, confess and hold dear because it means the world's solution for sin and our own personal sin. Our truth telling Jesus gives us the certain conviction that he will take all those who trust in him to live with him in heaven.

His promises put everything into perspective. It gives us a worldview that is bigger than our eyes can see or what we can know. It is an amazing window into heaven! Jesus came from heaven above with absolute truth from heaven. He has battled thru all the world-perverted ideas of truth in order to give us the truth he came to share. We are on his side, the side of truth. We see reality-eternal reality-in the cross and the love of God for us sinners.

3. He shares the truth thru us.

Our warrior Jesus calls us to be warriors for him. The weapon we have is his all powerful Word. That has given us a Christian worldview far superior to the world's. The Word changed us. We have Christ centered common sense and faith to use that Word well so we can bear witness to the sure hope and joy we have in Jesus.

So it is our privilege is to grow deeply in Christ and his Word, to live with consciences that are bound by his precious holy Word and then to show and share the beautiful faith he has given you, When you get out of bed in the morning, think, Jesus, As you choose what to spend your time, energy, and money on, Think Jesus. Let Jesus and his Word be the GPS for your entire life.

Consider this: After being exposed to a godless worldview-whether thru entertainment, media, Facebook, gmails, or from a friend's page-turn to your Bible and spend some time personally and with your families discussing how Christ has given us a far more truth view of the world and life. Equip yourself and your family to be confident of the real truth.

Go out there and play, work, and live on God's marvelous truth. Be ready to share it. Amen.