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“From the Pastor’s Desk”

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HIS TRUTH IS MARCHING ON

“Glory, glory, hallelujah, Glory, glory, hallelujah,
Glory, glory, hallelujah, His truth is marching on.”

Recently, I was awakened with the words of that song on my mind...and especially the line, "**His truth is marching on.**" As I thought about those words I could not get away from the part of "**His truth,**" *not our truth*, but **His TRUTH**. Every letter of that word should be capitalized; because "His truth" is like the word LORD; it is synonymous with Truth.

There is no greater definition of the word when referring to "His Truth" that better describes Him who is the Truth, the Way, and the Life. Jesus said it, "I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE." (John 14:6)

Albert Barnes Commentary talks about "His Truth" and he points out that God is the source of truth, that He is the one who originates and communicates truth for the salvation of men. "*Truth is a representation of things as they are. The life, the purity, and the teaching of Jesus Christ was the most complete and perfect representation of the things of the eternal world that have been, or can be, presented to man.*"

He went on to say: "*The ceremonies of the Jews were shadows; the life of Jesus was the truth.*" In other words what people say are mere opinions, philosophy, ideas which often times can be written in poetic and fancy form. But when Jesus spoke truth, it was not merely human opinion or a particular viewpoint. It was fact. The doctrines of Jesus were something more than opinion: it was truth in real genuine form just as any other truth which exists in the government of God.

But even more, when Jesus came He became the very fountain of all truth; that by His inspiration the prophets spoke, and that by Him all truth is communicated to men." The writer of the Gospel of John pointed it out this way when he wrote, "*For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.*" (John 1:17)

Moses, as a servant of God, was the great legislator of the Jews, by whom, under God, their society was formed. But it was attended with many burdensome rites, ceremonies and even often times wrath. Judgment was handed out with death sentences even upon the children and wives in the family along with the head of the house. But its purpose was to teach mankind the real consequence of sin. "*The wages of sin is death...*" (Romans 6:23)

But please note...The gospel succeeded that and took its place, and thus showed the greatness of the gospel economy, in supplying man an understanding of grace and truth.

Through Jesus Christ we have access to grace....and thank God for that. Even Moses could not always give his people access to this kind of grace. He had to stand between the people and God....God's holiness was so great that it burnt the mountain in which He came to talk with Moses. The people became so afraid of God that they told Moses you speak to God....and let Him speak to you lest to we die. (Ex. 20;19)

But when Christ came mankind found a means by which he may have access. Now we are invited to "*come boldly before the throne of grace*" (Heb. 4:16) that we may have access to the fountain of all TRUTH.

ONE WOMAN WHO FOUND ACCESS TO GOD'S GRACE

One woman dared to do that when she came to Christ for the healing of her body. She said, *"If I may but touch the hem of his garment, I will be healed."* (Luke 8:43-48) **But she got more than she realized at that moment.** When Christ felt this woman touch Him, our Lord turned around and asked: *"Who touched me?"* (Luke 8:45) the following verse tells us **"...that all denied it."** (8:45).

When all denied touching him, Peter said: *"Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?"* But when you come to verse 46, you will find that Jesus said, *"Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me."* And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before Him, she declared this unto Him before all the people.

Please note that the little woman came **"tremblingly"** (like a child caught stealing) but in her honesty she confessed what she had done. It was then that Jesus said unto her, *"Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace."* **The Gospel of Luke tells this story because it is more than just a woman that got healed...it is about a woman that got access to the throne of grace and truth.**

THE ONLY WAY WE HAVE ACCESS TO TRUTH IS BY HIS GRACE

Not everyone obtains access to truth. The reason is not that God wants to hide truth from anyone because *"He is not willing that any should perish"* (Matt. 18:14). Truth, often times, seemed to be hidden from the wise but is seen to be revealed to **"the babes."** Matt 11:25; Luke 10:21. These are people who may be considered: unlearned (education wise), and unnoticed; yet who are teachable, honest, humble, and eager to learn and end up being the very people that God chooses to reveal Himself.

The *"carnal man,"* on the other hand, may be considered by others to be shrewd and educated, but may in God's eyes, be filled with self which can make one very proud and haughty, and is often the reason they reject the gospel, grace and truth in the first place. It isn't so much that God rejects them as it is they reject God and thus miss out on the light of truth.

It is the pleasure of God to reveal His truth to the humble and pure in heart. Blessed are the *"pure in heart for they shall see God."* Probably one reason that the humble are able to see their need of God. They are desperate for answers and are willing to listen. I worry about people who seem never eager to ask questions. Maybe it is because of pride. They don't want to expose their ignorance. But the problem with that is they remain ignorant. Jesus said, *"Ask and ye shall receive."* That means ask questions. *"Seek (answers) and ye shall find."* *"Knock (on heaven's door) and it shall be opened unto you."*

Our nation is fragmented. Charles Murray has written a book which I am reading of late entitled **"Coming Apart."** In this book he gives in the reading a picture of what has taken place since 1963. This has led to the formation of different classes of people in our society in extreme degrees of separation from anything that the nation has ever known. The problem with this is, if it continues the way it has been happening, it will end what has made America, America.

While it is true that the Bible does not speak to every particular situation in our society...and this is important to acknowledge...yet it does give us the framework and general principles to apply to every situation. To the true believer, that makes perfect sense, because we are convinced of the Truth and the total reliability of the Word of God.

What is happening to America in general I fear can also be said about the institutionalized church. Some people want to change it from its historical past especially in doctrinal views. God's Church doesn't need to change its doctrine, its mission, and its focus to which it has been called. God's truth is marching on. We need to only keep marching to the beat of His Truth. Heaven and earth may pass way, but His TRUTH is marching on...Glory, Glory, Hallelujah.