

LIVING BY THE TRUTH

1. Text: II Corinthians 13:5-8
2. Notice verse 8: "We can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth."
3. We live in a world of moral and spiritual confusion, misinformation, lies, and false teaching.
Need: a commitment to truth for our and others' eternal destiny. Let's explore the truth:

I. **The Source Of Truth**

1. Christ. John 1:17 "Grace and truth." Also John 14:6
2. Holy Spirit. John 16:13 The Spirit of truth will guide you into all truth.
3. Word. John 17:17 Thy word is truth.
4. Gospel. Ephesians 1:13 Word of truth is the gospel. Also Colossians 1:5

II. **The Nature Of Truth**

1. It is absolute, not relative. Not depending on situation.
2. It is knowable. John 8:32 You shall know the truth.
3. It is exclusive. Narrow. Matthew 7:13-14. Ephesians 4:4-5.
4. It is condemning. It does, we do not.
5. It is a matter of practical commitment. Proverbs 23:23 "By truth, sell it not."

III. **The Purpose Of Truth**

1. Frees us. John 8:32. Romans 6:17 Were slaves to sin.
2. Saves us. I Timothy 2:4 God wills to save and knowledge of truth.
3. Births us again. James 1:8 Begat us by word of truth.
4. Purifies our hearts. I Peter 1:22. "By obeying the truth."
5. Judgment. Romans 2:2 The judgment of God is according to truth.

IV. **The Responses To Truth**

1. Those who would rather have what pleases them. II Timothy 4:2-4 describes these.
2. Those deluded by lies. II Thessalonians 2:10-12. Don't have love of truth.
3. Those following the commands of men. Titus 1:14 Contrasts these.
4. Those ever learning but never knowing truth. II Timothy 3:7.
5. Those who blaspheme truth. II Peter 2:2 Speak evil equals this.
6. Thou who charge madness to its spokesmen. Festus in Acts 26:24-25.

V. **The Demands Of Truth**

1. Obey it. Galatians 5:7 Who hindered you?
2. Stand for it. Galatians 2:5,11. Paul stood for it against Peter.
3. Rightly divide it. II Timothy 2:15 "Cutting it straight."
4. Speak it in love. Ephesians 4:15
5. Make sure the church is its pillar and ground. I Timothy 3:15
6. Teach it to others. II Timothy 2:24-26.

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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