

JANUARY 2017

"TRUTH"

**A SURE WORD
FOR TODAY**



Truth is like a mountain, It cannot
be moved and it never changes

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WEBSITE UPDATE

It is January and that means soon there will be a number of bills that need to be paid that are connected to the website. All donations are handled by PayPal and we are happy to report that they have made it easier than ever for you to give to our ministry.

When you click on the "DONATE" button you are taken to PayPal. There you are given two options. One is "Pay using PayPal" the other is "Pay with Credit Card." If you have a PayPal account you can use PayPal. If you don't, you can use a credit card. Just give them the card information and the amount and it is done. It is very easy and simple.

We thank you in advance for your support of this ministry. All the bills have always been paid. It has been very fascinating to see how when one is unable to give God always seems to raise up another. All we ever ask of anyone is to be obedient to what God tells you to do.

FEATURE ARTICLE: “WHAT HAPPENED?”

WARNING: You are entering the “TRUTH ZONE”. You may not like what you read. It may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to help you and provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness. You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

On January 20th Donald Trump will be sworn in as the 45th President of the United States of America. His victory in the November election over Hillary Clinton is being touted as one of the greatest political upsets in the history of our nation. The Clinton machine seemed to hold all the “trump” cards in this high stakes poker game. Her party was united behind her, she had almost unlimited financial resources, the media covering the election was clearly biased in her favor, and the polls were saying she would probably win by a large margin.

Donald Trump, on the other hand, seemed to have the deck stacked against him. He personally had to fund his own campaign during the primaries. At one point in the primaries, he had over a dozen opponents. Even after winning the nomination, he never did have the total support of his party. The news media set out to destroy him, and at times looked more like the tabloids we see at the grocery store than reputable news agencies. The polls kept telling us he didn't have a chance.

Yet on the evening of November 8th, the nation sat stunned as state after state was placed in his win column. We had been told he did not have a clear path to the 270 electoral votes needed to win the presidency. However, quite early in the evening, that propaganda began to be exposed to be just that, propaganda.

The first major state that fell to Trump was Florida. If Trump was going to win, he had to have Florida. He had it! Then the so-called political analysts began talking about the “northern blue line.” This included the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. In past elections these states have represented a democratic stronghold. To have any chance at all, Trump would have to pick off at least two of these.

The first to fall to Trump was Ohio. I thought this was ironic because Republican governor John Kasich had refused to endorse Trump. (Sore loser?) Next came Wisconsin. When it was all finished, Trump had won four of the five blue line states. Shortly after midnight Hillary called Mr. Trump and conceded defeat.

All of the nation was stunned. What had just happened? How did it happen and why did it happen? I believe the answers to those questions offer some very important truth that all Christians need to be made aware of and never forget.

First I want to deal with the negative things that I believe had a profound effect on the outcome of the election. As I followed the campaigns of both candidates, it became apparent to me that Hillary Clinton was aligning herself more and more with those who lacked Christian moral values and convictions.

This became glaringly apparent when just a week before the election, she had rapper Jay Z join her at a Cleveland, Ohio, rally. His performance was a cesspool of profuse obscenities and moral filth. I was shocked! She received his endorsement, but in doing so, she also placed her stamp of approval on his depravity and disenfranchised herself from millions of voters.

All of this sent a strong message to people of conscience. It was obvious that she had decided she did not need the vote of Christians in order to win. She had made a huge tactical error. According to the Washington Post, exit polls have shown that in the five “blue line states” and Florida, between 11% and 20% of all voters did not decide who they were going to vote for until the last week before the election. That group of voters favored Trump by a shocking 11-29 points! Could it be that this one tactical error resulted in a huge backlash for the Clinton campaign that ended up costing her the election? Could it be that America still has more of a moral conscience than she herself and most anyone else realized?

“ WHAT HAPPENED? “

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Donald Trump took a very different path. He actively courted the evangelicals. He met with Christian leaders and allowed them to pray over him. I watched an interview he granted to CBN and heard him say, “I cannot win without the evangelical vote.” When mistakes from his past surfaced, he acknowledged that things he had said and done in the past were wrong. I believe the differences between Donald and Hillary became very clear in the last two weeks of the campaign.

All of this should send a strong message to people of faith. We are far stronger than we have ever realized. Our vote can, has, and will make a huge difference in every election. If you ignore us or insult us you will pay a high price. This is the message we must communicate to all politicians. I believe this is what Jesus was talking about in Matthew 5.

Matthew 5:13 (TLB)

“You are the world’s seasoning, to make it tolerable. If you lose your flavor, what will happen to the world? And you yourselves will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.”

Obviously, Hillary Clinton counted us as worthless. She insulted us as a group and she paid the price. We have not lost our saltiness!

I also want to mention something I found very positive and encouraging. This election produced what I consider to be a whole new generation of true Christian leaders. These are the men and women who dared to stand in their pulpits and loudly proclaim to the body of Christ that we needed to pray and take a stand for righteousness. They did not hide behind the weak argument that claims Christian leaders cannot say anything or they will lose their tax-exempt status. I speak of men like Franklin Graham and Dr. James Dobson. These, and many others like them, are my new heroes. Never forget, true leaders are never afraid to lead!

There is another dynamic that was at work which I believe helps explain what happened and why it happened.

Let me go slow and set this up. So many times the average Christian feels so small and insignificant. Who am I and what can I do? I am not a Franklin Graham or a James Dobson. Well, social media has changed all that.

Social media is a powerful tool that allows each of us to get involved and make a huge difference. This is one of the things Miss Linda and I used to make us feel like perhaps we were making a difference. On the eve of the election we looked at each other and said, “At least we know we did everything we could to influence the outcome.” Can you say the same?

It grieved me to hear people say they were tired of all the election related articles and videos being posted on Facebook. Some even said they were not going to be on Facebook until after the election was over. Hear me, social media is a powerful way a message can be spread to the whole nation! Not by the biased major news media or the candidates, but by common people like you and I. I was so proud of our friend Kathy Clarkson Whyte who dared to dedicate her Facebook page to trying to make a difference in the election. People like her did make a difference. Nearly all the things Miss Linda shared on her Facebook page came directly from Kathy’s page.

All of it put together made the outcome what it was. Hillary Clinton did not feel she needed the evangelical vote, and Donald Trump did. True Christian leaders dared to stand up and say the politically incorrect thing and thus provided guidance for the body of Christ. And all the rest of us who dared to let our feelings and convictions be known. All of it put together is why it happened.

Oh, there might just be one other thing. Without question, there is a God who has told us to pray; and pray we did! In all my life I have never seen God’s people crying out for deliverance like I saw them do prior to this election. The fate and future of our nation was hanging in the balance. God’s people prayed and God answered their prayers.

We must not stop praying. Donald Trump needs our prayers now more than ever. If he will seek the wisdom that only God can give, he will go down in history as perhaps one of the greatest presidents this country has ever had.

And that my friends,
is the truth!



A M I N U T E W I T H M I S S L I N D A



“This One Thing I Know”

One of the things most of us deal with from time to time is an ugly monster called condemnation. We begin to feel as if God is not pleased with us or may have even abandoned us.

A number of different things can trigger this, but two seem to stand out in my mind. One is the trials we all face in life. Yes, there are days when everything seems to go great, almost perfect. It's so easy when everything is great to feel confident that we are one of those chosen and loved by God. Then the next day it feels like everything is going wrong. Do you ever have times like this? It happens to all of us. It is during those times of testing and turmoil that we are most likely to begin to question our relationship and standing with God.

When this happens, we need to remember that this is life. It is not something we should be shocked by. If it didn't happen yesterday, the odds are it will happen today. If it doesn't happen today, the odds are even greater it will happen tomorrow. For sure, the trials of life open us up to attack by Satan who the Bible says is the accuser of the brethren.

Then there are the times when we know we have badly failed to be the person God wants us to be. This also is something that we all experience. We want to do what is right only to find out that sometimes, we don't even know what that is.

My husband likes to tease me. He reminds me that there is a Saint John but no Saint Linda. I checked in Strong's Concordance to find the meaning of the word “Saint.” This is what I found. “SAINT”: sacred (physically, pure, morally blameless or religious, ceremonially, consecrated):--(most) holy.

Oh my, that for sure doesn't describe me! (Nor my husband!) I have never claimed to be a saint or to be perfect without any faults. OK, so I may not be Saint Linda and likewise I am quite sure none of you have ever been declared saints, but we can be assured of one thing:

“Yes, I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not death, life, angels, or ruling spirits. I am sure that nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us or nothing below us—nothing in the whole created world—will ever be able to separate us from the love God has shown us in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 8:38-39 (ERV)**

This is how I deal with attacks of condemnation. I stand on the word of God. I have an assurance as a believer who has put my faith in the finished work of the cross, that nothing, no nothing, can separate me from the love of Jesus!!!

“JESUS LOVES ME THIS I KNOW!”

This is the foundation I have stood upon for my entire life. My faith is based on His love and His work, not mine. There have been times when that was all I had to cling to. It was enough!

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I remember a time in my late teens when I experienced such a feeling of separation from God. For about a year, when I tried to pray, it was like I was hitting a brick wall. I did not feel closely intimate with the Lord. When I look back on this time, I honestly cannot find anything that I may have said or done that caused this to happen. Nevertheless, I began to wonder if somehow I had done something that caused God to forsake me. After about a year, my close relationship with the Lord returned. I will never know what caused it, but I absolutely know that God never abandoned me. I believe God allowed it to happen for a reason. It has never happened again, but because it did happen, I truly treasure the intimate relationship I have with the Lord now.

We need to be reminded that even our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, experienced the feeling of abandonment by God. As He hung on the cross and the sin of the whole world was placed upon Him, He cried out, "...My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46 (KJV)

Did the Father God forsake Him? A careful study of God's Word will quickly reveal that Jesus was never forsaken. Three days after His death, God raised Him from the dead and gave Him a name that is above every other name. He has been given the title of "King of Kings and Lord of Lords." Rather, it was the terrible trial He was going through that caused Him to feel abandoned and forsaken.

There is a great lesson contained in this for each of us. The trials of life will open us up to the attack of condemnation. If the sinless Son of God could feel a sense of abandonment, how much more do each of us need to guard ourselves when we encounter trials and tests!

Some may argue that Jesus was not abandoned because He indeed was sinless. We do not have such a sinless status and therefore we are in jeopardy. Wait, what does the Word teach us? Was Jesus really sinless?

2 Corinthians 5:21 (TLB)

"For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us!"

I want you to see the reality of what happened here. Even after the sin of the whole world was poured into Jesus, God did not abandon Him!

So I ask you, why should you, the one who has had your sin and failure taken away, allow yourself to feel like your failure has caused God to abandon you? To do such a thing, God would have to ignore everything Jesus died to accomplish.

This brings us back to where we started. What can separate us from the love of Christ? Undoubtedly, there are many experiences that test our faith, but we are ultimately saved by God's grace. Jesus understands our trials and doubts, and He is not interested in casting us away. God always knew we would make thousands of mistakes after receiving Christ, but He saved us anyway. His Love is amazing and goes far beyond what we can ever imagine.

The words of the song, "Your Love Never Fails" are so meaningful and true in my life and in every believer's life.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_2qG22SPwU

Nothing can separate
Even if I ran away
Your love never fails
I know I still make mistakes
But You have new mercies for me everyday
Your love never fails
You stay the same through the ages
Your love never changes
There may be pain in the night
But joy comes in the morning
And when the oceans rage
I don't have to be afraid
Because I know that You love me
Your love never fails
The wind is strong and the water's deep
I'm not alone here in these open seas
'Cause Your love never fails
The chasm is far too wide
I never thought I'd reach the other side
But Your love never fails
'Cause you stay the same through the ages
You make all things work together for my good.

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE
"TRUTH".

”Can America Be Great Again?”

During his run for the presidency, Donald Trump repeatedly said he was going to “make America great again.” Politicians have a unique way of saying things like that but then are totally unable to deliver the goods once elected. Considering the problems this country faces, failure to deliver would certainly be understandable. Right now our country is in a very dark place. In fact, there is so much wrong it seems it will take a miracle if we are ever to see America once again become a truly great land of unlimited opportunity.

I urge you, do not put your hope and trust in Donald Trump. He is not a miracle worker. But God is. Only God can deliver this nation from the death spiral it has been in for the last eight years. The question is, will He and why would He? The answer is really quite simple and I believe it will give you guidance as to how to pray for your president.

At the risk of sounding totally repetitious, I will once again remind you that God made a promise to a man by the name of Abraham. God said...

Genesis 12:3 (AMP)

“And I will bless (do good for, benefit) those who bless you, And I will curse [that is, subject to My wrath and judgment] the one who curses (despises, dishonors, has contempt for) you....”

Will Donald Trump reach out and bless Israel, or will he continue the disaster of the last eight years? If his track record is any indicator, we can expect him to be a great blessing to both the Jewish people and the nation of Israel.

How strong are Donald’s bonds to Israel? He is a past Grand Marshal of the annual “Salute to Israel” parade. The Jewish National Fund awarded Donald Trump the “Tree of Life” award for his lifetime of support for the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Jewish Week magazine found that Donald has given generously for many years to Jewish charities. A professor of American Jewish History calls Trump’s charitable giving to Jewish causes “impressive” and clearly out of the ordinary for a non-Jew.

Donald is the strongest anti-terrorism president possible. He understands our enemy is radical Islam. He uses the words “Islamic extremist” in the same sentence. That alone makes Donald the best friend Jews ever had.

Speaking of best friends, many of Donald’s friends, business partners, executives at the Trump organization, country club members at Mar-a-Lago, and trusted lawyers and advisers are Jewish. No U.S. president has ever in history been surrounded by so many Jewish friends and advisers.

Thus far Mr. Trump appears to be surrounding himself with men who are proven supporters of Israel. At the time I am writing this, it is too early to know who Trump’s advisers and cabinet members will be. But there is good reason for all of us, and Israel, to be encouraged by who the advisers were who worked with Trump during the campaign.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence is one of the most pro-Israel policymakers in America. Former speaker of the House Newt Gingrich is an outspoken ally of Israel and of the US-Israel alliance. In a Republican presidential debate in 2011, Gingrich referred to the Palestinians as an “invented people,” and noted that they indoctrinate their children to perceive Jews as subhuman and seek their annihilation. For his statement of fact, Gingrich was brutally assaulted by both Democratic and Republican elites. But he courageously refused to rescind his statement. Likewise, former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani, former senator Rick Santorum, retired general Mike Flynn, and former UN ambassador John Bolton are all extraordinary champions of the US alliance with Israel.

Yes, I am hopeful that once again God will make America great. Donald Trump may have been the one who said it could be done, but God is the one who will make it happen.

People of God....pray like never before!

And that my friends,
is the “Truth!”