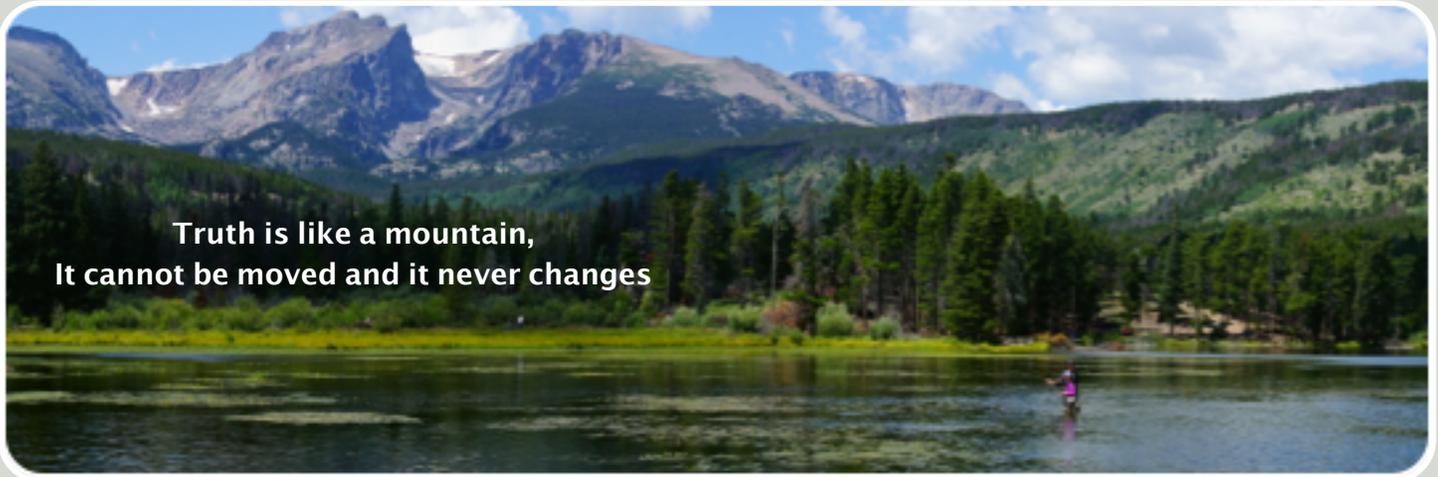


OCTOBER 2022

"TRUTH"

**A SURE WORD
FOR TODAY**



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

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UPDATE

Fall is one of our favorite times of the year. Getting pictures of the Fall color is always so much fun, but getting pictures of huge bull elk can be a real challenge. All the photos we are using this month were taken this year. If you want to know the story behind them you will find it on our 'Subscriber's Gallery' page. As the title implies, this page is only available to our subscribers.

If you have not yet subscribed, it is not too late to view this page. When you subscribe we send you an e-mail that contains a link to the 'Subscriber's Gallery'. Click on it and it will take you directly to the page. **It is easy, and it is free!**

On the first of each month, you will get another reminder from us letting you know that a new issue of 'Truth' has just been published. It will contain links to each article and to the exclusive 'Subscriber's Gallery' page. Try it today and if you don't like it, you can easily unsubscribe by clicking that button when we send you your monthly reminder. Enjoy!

FEATURE ARTICLE: "ARE YOU FAT?"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will 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!

A while back Miss Linda and I were at the Egg of Estes enjoying a great breakfast when something happened that triggered this article. A couple in the booth next to us finished eating just before us. As we walked by their booth I noticed they had left a \$5.00 tip. When we got to the register I overheard that their bill came to just over \$45.00. I guess I shouldn't judge, but the tip they left seemed a bit lite to me.

My philosophy of life has always been to try and be a blessing to all I encounter. Our bill that day came to less than \$20.00, yet the tip we gave our server was the same as what Mr. Tight Wad had left for a bill over twice as large. Which of us was right and which of us was unwise? Human wisdom says that being tight-fisted is the smart way to live, but what does the Bible say?

Proverbs 11:25 WEB

25 The liberal soul shall be made fat.

He who waters shall be watered also himself.

I can truthfully say that few things in life equal the feeling that comes from blessing others. What that feels like is hard to put in words except to say, "My soul feels fat." When we pastored Resurrection Fellowship we had a church filled with 'fat' people. By that I mean, our congregation had learned to look for ways to bless others, and with that came immense joy, and happiness. Because of this, we were able to help build Bible schools around the world, start Resurrection Christian School, subsidize it, and provide it with the finest facilities. While doing this we also found a way to give food to hundreds of needy families each Christmas, give over \$1,000,000 each year to world missions, and on two occasions pay off the home loans of widows who had just lost their husbands.

Oh, how fat our souls were!

Those who have never learned the secret of living 'fat' can't understand this because it makes no

sense in their world. Of course, it makes no sense, because all spiritual principles run contrary to human reasoning and wisdom. Yes, there are many unanswered questions, but one thing I know for sure is that it works, and it allows you to live 'fat' and fulfill the purpose for which you have been put on this earth, which is to be a blessing.

Those who reject this live 'thin' and emaciated spiritually. For them, each new day is considered a challenge to somehow pay the bills rather than looking for opportunities to be a blessing. They may live in beautiful homes and drive expensive cars, but in God's eyes, they are very foolish! Here is how God views them.

Revelation 3:17 KJV

17..... thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Yes, truly they are blind! They also forget that someday they will stand before God and on that day, all they have accomplished will suddenly become nothing but a heap of ash. Any attempt to try and convince God that their earthly actions and motives were pure will prove futile because God's judgment will have already proved otherwise.

And so, I conclude by asking you one question, "Are you living fat?" Every material possession I have ever owned eventually passed from my life like dung and left behind no trace of residual joy, satisfaction, or fulfillment. But the memory of things I have been part of that blest the lives of so many still fill my soul with fatness that can never be taken from me. I will carry them with me to my grave and they will be mine for all eternity! What have you been part of that makes your soul feel that way?

Above all, live to be a blessing!

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH



A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



“Does God Hate?”

In recent years, we have seen much emphasis placed on the need for us to show love to the sinner. I know the Bible tells us to love, but it seems to me that things

have gotten a bit unbalanced. Perhaps we need to take a fresh look at how God views both sin and the sinner. I want to warn you, that some of what you are about to read may disturb you.

Let me start by telling you that even though God is a God of love, He hates sin. He hates sin because it is a destroyer. It destroys the plan of God for our lives, destroys marriages, and sends people to hell. It should not be difficult to understand why a loving God would hate sin.

Proverbs 6:16-19 TPT

16 There are six evils God truly hates and a seventh that is an abomination to him:

17 Putting others down while considering yourself superior, spreading lies and rumors, spilling the blood of the innocent,

18 plotting evil in your heart toward another, gloating over doing what's plainly wrong,

19 spouting lies in false testimony, and stirring up strife between friends.

One of the greatest evangelists of our time was Billy Graham. He said “It’s God’s love for man that prompts him to hate sin with a vengeance. We in the church have failed to remind this generation that while God is love, He also has the capacity to hate. He hates sin and will judge it with the fierceness of His wrath. This generation is schooled in the teaching of an indulgent, soft-hearted God whose judgments are uncertain and who coddles those who break His commandments. This generation finds it difficult to believe that God hates sin. **I tell you that God hates sin just as a father hates a rattlesnake that threatens the safety and life of his child.** God loathes evil and diabolic forces that would pull people down to a godless eternity just as a mother hates a venomous spider that is found playing on the soft, warm flesh of her little baby. It is His love for man, His compassion for the human race, that prompts God to hate sin with such a vengeance. He gave Heaven’s finest that we might have the best, and He loathes with a holy abhorrence anything that would hinder our being reconciled to Him.”

The Bible is very plain about the fact that He hates sin, and that you and I should also hate sin.

Romans 12:9 Amplified Bible

9 Love is to be sincere and active [the real thing—without guile and hypocrisy]. **Hate what is evil [detest all ungodliness, do not tolerate wickedness];** hold on tightly to what is good.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

"Does God Hate?"
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Proverbs 8:13 Amplified Bible

13 "The [reverent] fear and worshipful awe of the Lord includes the hatred of evil....

But, as they say in the infomercials, "Wait, there is more!" It may shock you to find out that not only does God hate sin, but He also hates some sinners.

Psalms 11:5 Easy-to-Read Version

5 The Lord examines those who are good and those who are wicked; **he hates those who enjoy hurting others.**

Psalms 5:5-6 Amplified Bible

5 The boastful and the arrogant will not stand in Your sight; **You hate all who do evil.**

6 You destroy those who tell lies; The Lord detests and rejects the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Charles Spurgeon had this to say about Psalms 5:5.

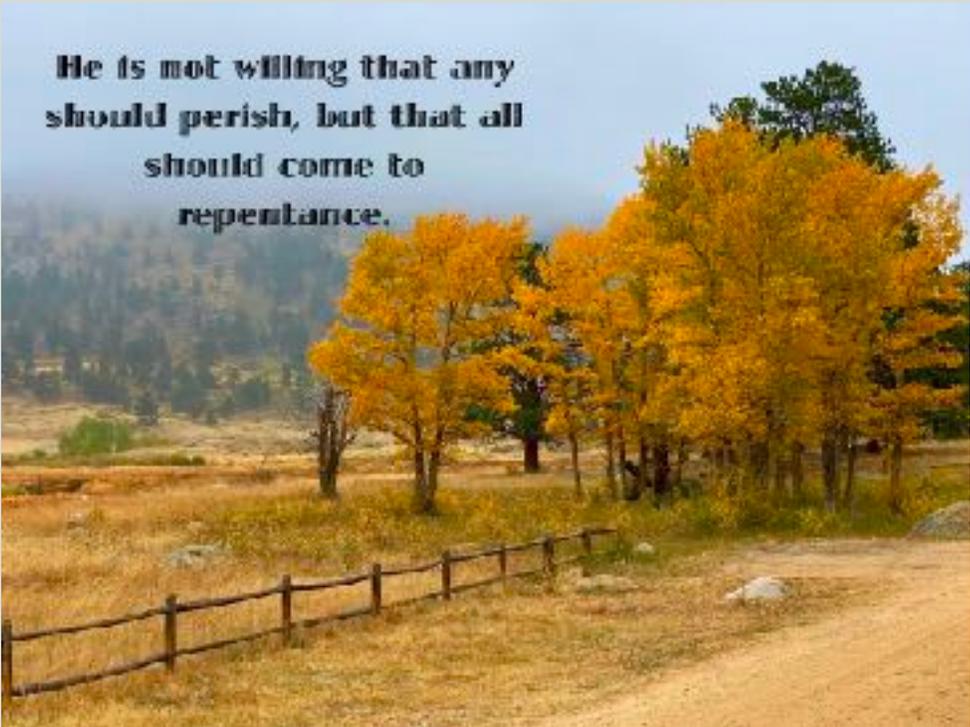
"It is not a little dislike, but a thorough hatred which God bears to workers of iniquity. To be hated by God is an awful thing."

This is hard for us to understand. How can a loving God hate not only sin but also the sinner and still love? I can't wrap my head around this. It seems like an oxymoron for which I don't have the answer, but I know it is true because the Bible says it.

The bigger question we need to answer is: If God hates sinners, shouldn't we also hate them? Yes, God hates both sin and some sinners, but He never tells us to hate them. Why?

The answer is really quite simple; we are not God, so we are in no position to judge them, let alone hate them. All we see are the outward things they do and we hate those things because obviously, they are pure evil. But, God sees beyond this. He sees the battles of the mind they struggle with every day. He sees the things that make them do what they do, and He has love and compassion that we can't begin to comprehend. That is why He can hate a person, but we must never do the same.

This is something I have struggled with. When I see the wickedness of some who call themselves Christians, it makes me very angry and it would be easy to hate them. But, I know this is something God forbids and I am committed to living by what God's Word says. God is the only one capable of sorting this all out, so I pray for His grace and pass it off to Him. I don't need to hate them.



**He is not willing that any
should perish, but that all
should come to
repentance.**

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH

P R O P H E C Y U P D A T E

"It Was Prophesied"

On August 30 the Cultural Research Center at Arizona Christian University released the results of a survey of 1000 pastors. They surveyed lead pastors, youth and children's pastors, and teaching pastors from a broad spectrum of Christianity including mainline protestant, evangelical, traditionally black, charismatic/pentecostal, Catholic, and holiness churches. The results were both stunning and disturbing.

For instance, among evangelical pastors, about (39%) contend that there is no absolute moral truth and that each individual must determine their own truth. Likewise, only 38% maintain that human life is sacred and 37% say that having faith matters more than which faith you have. Also, three out of every 10 evangelical pastors (30%) do not believe that their salvation is based on having confessed their sins and accepting Jesus Christ as their savior.

A majority of Pentecostal and charismatic pastors (54%) believe that moral truth is relative to the individual and situation, and that there are no moral absolutes that apply to everyone, all the time. In addition, (47%) of all Pentecostal and charismatic pastors believe that good people can earn their eternal salvation, and (45%) do not believe that human life is sacred. Even more disturbing is that (54%) said that determining moral truth is up to each individual.

It should also be noted that of all the groups surveyed, Catholic priests were least likely to have a biblical worldview by a very large margin. For instance, (61%) said the Bible is ambiguous regarding abortion; they believe it is possible to make a compelling biblical argument either for or against abortion. This seems to run contrary to the Catholic church's firm stand against abortion.

The survey went into more detail than I have room to share here, so if you want to read it you can find it at: https://www.arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/CRC_AWVIRelase_07_Digital.pdf

As I read it I was reminded of 2 Timothy 4:3-4.

2 Timothy 4:3-4 KJV

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Once again we are confronted with the undeniable truth that the Bible is God's word, for it accurately told us events that would happen thousands of years in the future, proving that those who have rejected God's word as absolute truth are fools.

So, what are you and I supposed to do if we encounter this in our churches? First of all, don't be afraid to speak to the pastor who teaches something that does not line up with the Word. Be loving, but be strong and let your pastor know that you cannot be part of a church that rejects God's Word as absolute truth. I must warn you, you may be lovingly shown where the 'exit' sign is.

I must also warn you that some of the worst offenders in the survey were children's and youth pastors. Do not assume that your children are being taught the truth just because you take them to church.

This is a dark report but we can all find encouragement by remembering that this was prophesied and that the return of Jesus has also been prophesied. Keep looking up!

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH