What Is Truth? Truth Is A Person

In his sermon in a recent zoom service, our visiting speaker spoke about Truth, and asked the rhetorical, and perennial, question, ***"What Is Truth?"*** He said:

"And so, we come to the definition of truth. I've put: ***'An eternal person and what He says.'*** There was such an irony, wasn't there, when Pontius Pilate was standing in front of Jesus … and Pilate says, ***'What is Truth?'*** There is this product of a polytheistic military society looking at Truth – and he doesn't see it. And so, you have to ask the question: ***'Why?'*** How can *I* know the Truth? How do I know that what I hear really is the Truth? And what is it that causes us to believe a lie – and sometimes prefer it? What causes us to recognise Truth?" **[Andy Blake, *Seeing the Wood for the Trees*, FBC zoom service, 28 Feb 2021].**

Truth Is "An Eternal Person and What He Says"

Andy tells us that Truth is a person: Truth is the Lord Jesus Christ. What does the Bible say about the Lord Jesus? The following are just a few Scripture references...

"And the Word [Jesus] was made flesh … full of grace and truth [225] … Grace and truth [225] came by Jesus Christ" (John1:14,17),

"John … bare witness to the truth [Jesus] [225]" (John 5:33),

"And ye shall know the truth [225], and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32),

"I am the way, the truth [225], and the life" (John 14:6),

"[T]he Comforter … even the Spirit of truth [225] … shall testify of me" (John 15:26),

"God our Saviour; Who will have all men … to come unto the knowledge of the truth [225]" (1 Timothy 2:3-4),

"And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth [225]" (1 John 5:6),

"[H]e [God] that sent me is true [228/227]" (John 7:28 / John 8:26),

"[Y]e turned to God from idols to serve the living and true [228] God" (1 Thess. 1:9),

"[T]he Son of God is come … him that is true [228] … Jesus Christ … the true God" (1 John 5:20),

"These things saith he that is holy, he that is true [228]" (Rev 3:7),

"These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true [228] witness" (Rev 3:14),

"And I saw heaven opened … and [Jesus] that … <u>was called Faithful and True</u>" (Rev 19:11).

[225] = Gr. Alétheia: *truth, as the unveiled reality lying at the basis of and agreeing with an appearance; the manifested, or the veritable essence of matter. The reality pertaining to an appearance … denotes the reality clearly lying before our eyes as opposite to a mere appearance, without reality … Truth as opposite to types, emblems, or shadows.*

[227] = Gr. Alēthḗs: *a true one who cannot lie*; ***[228] = Gr. Alēthinós:*** *real, genuine.*

So, Andy says, *this* is the irony of Pilate's question: the *concept* of Truth was now a manifested *reality*. Truth was embodied in the man now standing before him. Truth was "clearly before his eyes". But Pilate was blind to the Truth: "seeing, he [could] not see" (cf. Luke 8:10).

And, tragically, just like Pilate then, so many folks today still can't see the Truth: the Truth Who went to the cross for us; the Truth Who gave us His written Word of Truth; the Truth Who sent His Holy Spirit of Truth to help us; the Truth Who now sits in Heaven at the right hand of God ever interceding for us; and the Truth Who will one day return in Glory to redeem all those who love the Truth.

God willing, we shall look a little more at the issues and questions Andy raised in his sermon in future issues of *The Messenger…* Next time: **'What is Truth? Thy Word Is Truth'**.

May you ever rest in the Truth of the One Who is called Faithful and True,
Elizabeth McDonald
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