

Knowing the Truth will set You 'Free':

We can come to a place in our lives where we may feel like we know all we need to for our lives. We become 'unteachable' at that point because we put a lid on our heart and mind to block anything from penetrating because we don't 'want' to be told or 'taught' anything else by anyone else.

Where the burden of the wisdom of the 'Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil' was never part of God's 'plan' for our lives it became a 'reality' when Adam and Eve ate of its fruit and since then man has been filling his mind.

We have an amazing capacity to learn and retain information however much of what we 'learn' is 'worldly' knowledge and perspective ... not Godly 'Knowledge' and even more importantly Godly 'Wisdom'. What's the difference between 'worldly' and 'Godly'? Truth! Wisdom and Knowledge? Application!

Godly 'knowledge' **always** sets us 'free' and comes with the 'wisdom' of **how** to 'apply' or use that 'wisdom' in our lives. We should always 'test' or **measure** the things we see and hear the would come in the 'guise' of knowledge or wisdom against God's Word and 'truth' because if it goes 'contrary' in even the slightest way then it's a 'lie' of the enemy (Satan) meant to ensnare and 'bind' us. For just as God's truth sets us '**free**' everything else is meant to 'trap or imprison' us sometimes physically but more often mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

So many people walk in those 'chains and bondage' throughout their lives never even realizing it. It robs us of the 'joy' of the Lord (which is our strength', the 'peace that passes understanding', the 'hope' set before us (the enabled Jesus to endure the cross) and so on. But the enemy who hates us because God loves us comes to 'lie, steal and destroy' which I think it is interesting that it starts with the word 'lie' first because if we don't 'believe and accept' that 'lie' as a 'truth' then he **can't** 'steal and destroy' God's gifts from us.

For example, one of God's truths is **faith** ('comes by hearing and the Word of God') which tells us God is in 'control' and we need to walk in the assurance of His ability to do so as a loving Heavenly Father. Yet so many people walk in the **lie** (so then too the 'burden') that they can control things by their actions, beliefs, hopes, etc. The Bible says not to 'worry' about tomorrow because today

has enough concern of its own but even more importantly because we can't 'change' it, it goes on to say not to 'worry' about what you are going to **eat** or **drink** because if God provides for the birds of the air how much **more** will He not provide for those He loves, also not to worry about what we will **wear** for He clothed the flowers so beautifully in the fields and how much more so is He capable of clothing us.

All we need to do is have **faith** but the enemy comes in and whispers the 'lie' to us that there is no God' or that He isn't loving or that He doesn't loves 'us' or perhaps the worst 'lie' of all "we can do it better than God would so we don't need Him to take care of us" (the lie of 'pride' which Satan told himself in Heaven I'm as good as or better than God). When we **hear** this whisper, we have the ability to 'test or measure' it against God's Word to determine its merit **before** we apply it or we can 'accept' it. The **truth** being we will 'apply' what we **really believe** in our lives. So, either we then walk in the **peace** and **freedom** of **knowing** our loving Heavenly Father is in **control** or we walk in the **bondage** and **fear** of what is going to happen.

We can walk in the 'lie' we can add hours, days or years to our life by getting a certain type of treatment (if we have a sickness or disease), or by eating a certain way or getting a certain amount of exercise ... and so on. Yet the truth is that people die every day getting the treatments man believes will change their appointed time of death or while being man's ideal size or shape. But the 'truth' is that God is the one who created us and 'numbered' our days and no man labeled 'disease' or worldly 'event' such as natural catastrophes, accident, etc. can change God's divine plan for us. When He created us uniquely as we are (size, shape and look cell by cell in our mother's womb) He made us to fulfill a specific purpose and predestined/ordered our steps while gifting us with all we would need to see it accomplished and that included the number of days we would walk this earth. So, we can walk in the 'freedom' of knowing God's truth or the bondage and fear of what tomorrow will bring.

What in life binds you and keeps you from living in the light of God's freedom, His love and peace and joy? What **lies** of the **enemy** whispered in your ear and heart have you truly **believed** as 'knowledge' and applied to your life (because remember we don't act on something we don't truly believe)? The beauty is at any moment we can have the 'scales' placed there by our **unbelief** in God (and as a result also His abilities) removed and the light of God and His **truth** to be restored and receiving the **freedom** that comes with it. The people Jesus healed

didn't just receive their healing and go back to living in bondage because once they had **tasted** the true freedom of walking in the 'knowledge' of who God was they were not bound again.

Satan knows that our time here on this earth is limited and that God has a plan for us. Satan's plot is to keep us separated from God because when we are separated from God (the source of life and light) we are in darkness and in the darkness, it is easier to believe the **lies** since darkness conceals things from us like the truth. The reason eating the fruit in the Garden brought death is because as beings of light meant to walk with God and whose life comes from God ... **disobedience** (sin) brought separation from God not by His choice but by ours and separation from His life and light is death. God's mercy cast man from the Garden so He could not partake from the Tree of Life and thus be trapped in an eternal condition of separation from God. Then God implemented His plan for a way of restoration to those who choose it so we can again **live** in the light and life He intended for us.

Do you walk in that **light** and **life** like Adam and Eve did in the Garden in relationship with Him and seeking Him? If so, then just as they walked in the Garden in peace and freedom, totally provided for in all their needs so to can we walk in this world. Because like they we have a choice too each day ... do we meet with God and trust God and do as He command? Do we stay away from the 'Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil' and walk in the innocence of **knowing** God knows best and loving Him enough to choose to obey (obedience is **better** than sacrifice) and experience the freedom that comes from this choice or do we eat the fruit and accept separation from God rather than restoration as the **truth** for our life here and souls for eternity.

Whom God sets free is free indeed. God's restoration doesn't leave a scar for what came before that restoration. Instead when we experience the restoration from God rather He comes in and lances the scars that both our sins and those of others in our lives have caused in us and He lances them to release the infection of anger, bitterness, unforgiving, etc. residue left behind but unseen beneath the scar we mistakenly believe means the wound is healed. Then He applies a healing balm and rewraps the wound. Later when God removes the wrap we find where there was a scar now the flesh has been completely restored and new leaving no evidence that there ever was a wound. God's desire for Christ is a beautiful Bride not one which is scarred and wounded but one that can stand before Him new never touched or tainted by sin but we can only be a part of that Bride if we allow

God's restoration in our lives. We have to let go of the 'lies' we have believed and ask God's forgiveness for disobeying and partaking of a fruit He never intended for us and we choosing to believe and live by 'lies' rather than walking with Him in truth. We need to 'Thank God' for making a path for restoration and 'Thank Jesus' for being willing to walk that path for us. We need to receive the restoration by returning to God what was His from the beginning (our lives our wills our illusion of our control, everything we are and have) and accepting what God offers in its place Christ His Son to take up residence in our heart and life (which no longer belong to us). Next, we need to 'Thank the Holy Spirit' for being willing to stay here (in this sin filled doomed world) with us and complete the work of restoration and transformation in us until the day God calls us Home.

If we do this and truly walk in the **light** of God's **truth** then we will know and experience the wisdom resulting from embracing 'whom the Spirit sets free is free indeed and we know the truth and the truth sets you free.' Also 'there is no fear for those who are in Christ Jesus'. That 'neither height nor depth **nothing** can separate from the **love** of God'. There are so many promises of God to those who are in Christ Jesus. The price is little but the prize for doing so is beyond belief.

Final Thought: Examine your life with open and honest heart to see if you are walking in the **freedom** God intended you to (remember We are to 'cast our **cares** on Him for He cares for us' and give Him our burden/yoke and take His because it is light) in perfect peace, joy and love or are you living a life burdened by the cares of the world in bondage and fear of the choices you make? Remember that you don't have to remain where you are as we are all growing and being changed by the choices, we make ... some to even greater freedom, peace and joy while others to even deeper despair. Jesus already walked the path of the latter when He took on all the sins of the world (including ours) for all time in one act of amazing love, compassion and forgiving so that we would never have to know the pain that He endured. My hope and prayer is that you will find and choose to walk in the **truth** of God being transformed into a **child** of God and the **freedom** that brings. My God can do **Anything!!**