

John 58 – Truth of God Lies of Lucifer

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John 17:13-19

Reviewing the Prayer

- Christ is God
 - He is returning to God when His mission is completed
 - The Apostles are remaining behind
- Unity of Father – Christ – Believers
 - Just as the Father and Son are One
 - All believers One with Father and Son

Christ Has Given the Word

- The basis for Christ leaving the World is the Word
 - Christ has given God's words to the World
 - The Apostles *heard* the Word and were pulled by the Father into the Gospel; as were others
- The Word is the basis for changing believers who were of the World but now are only in the World-Changed

The Word, unless otherwise specified, refers to the Scriptures
These were inerrant in their original form which no longer exist
However, the multiplicity of surviving copies give us reliable representation of the originals

Law of Excluded Middle

- Since the Word *changed* believers, they are no longer of the World: there is no neutral or third position
 - They have become *new creations* in Christ (2Co 5:17)
 - The World hates *true* believers who have the Logos of the Father
- Since they have the Light of Christ, the Darkness of the World will seek to snuff out their Light

Focus of Christ's Prayer

- Christ asks the Father to protect the Believers from *evil* while they are in the World doing the work of Christ: Spreading the Father's Gospel
- {τοῦ πονηροῦ} This can be translated thusly:
 - Masculine, Singular, Genitive: *From the Evil One* (Satan)
 - Neuter, Singular, Genitive: *From evil* (Satan, World, and Flesh)*

The context allows for either translation; therefore, the translator chooses based on his beliefs
While Lucifer (Satan) is the Father of sin, he uses the World and the Flesh to promote sin
I believe Christ is praying to the Father to protect Believers from the Triad which so easily besets us

Godly Protection Essential

- Christ prays to the Father to protect Apostles in the World to spread the Gospel to the World without returning to the World (Perseverance of the Saints)
- Eve succumbed to Lucifer
- Adam succumbed to the Flesh
- Cain (man) developed & succumbed to World System

Christ the Example of Living

- Just as Christ was One with the Father and the Father One with Christ so also was Christ not of the World though He was in the World
 - The World hated Him because He was Light, not Dark
 - When He leaves, the World will try to destroy the Apostles He leaves in the World
 - They need the Father's protections: Spirit and Word

Word Equal to Spirit

- Witness of the Spirit agrees with the Gospel of Christ (1Jo 5:7-12)
- God emphasizes the importance of the Word; i.e., testimony, as essential to salvation (Ro 1:1-16)
 - Believers will be *changed* by the Word
 - Unbelievers will be *unchanged* (judged) by the Word (Jo 12:48)

The Word is Truth

- Bible writes
 - The Spirit is truth (1Jo 5:6)
 - The Word is Truth (Jo 1:16)
 - Thus, Spirit and Word are equal in conveying Truth
- Ergo, the World, based on lies, must hate Truth and those who walk in Truth via Spirit in the Word (Jo 8:44)

Truth: Law of Identity

- To satisfy the Law of Identity, Truth must be defined
 - World's belief: Truth is body of *empirical* events and facts
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/truth>
 - Philosophy defines truth as a theory (Can be falsifiable)
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/truth/>
 - Bible defines God as spirit and truth (Jn 4:24)
 - Bible states that the empirical built on the non-empirical (1Jn 1:1-3)

The World's belief of truth violates the Law of Non-Contradiction: Belief is not empirical
Philosophy also violates the same law: if truth is a theory and can be falsified then it is not truth
Truth cannot be defined apart from God; ergo, there is no true definition except in the Character of God

World's Truth Relative

- Because the world's definition of truth is linked to the empirical and its philosophical underpinnings remain theoretical and thus falsifiable, the World rejects truth
 - People suppress the truth of God: He is Truth (Ro 1:18-25)
 - People exchange God's truth for their lies
 - Science, search for truth, becomes scientism, suppression of truth; technology without truth promotes death

Reality of Truth

- God's Truth has these qualities
 - Truth based on non-empirical, spiritual God (Jn 4:23-24)
 - God's Creation shows God's existence and power (Ps 19:1-5)
 - God's moral truth embodied in His Ten Words (Ex 20:1-17)
 - God sent His Son to speak Truth of the Gospel: New Covenant salvation based on His Paschal Lamb death (Ro 1:21-26)
 - Believers live His Truth as testimony to Life in Him (Ep 1:13)

There is only ONE immutable truth since it reflects the eternal Logos of the Father
At best man can only discern the empirical aspects of truth but ignores spiritual component
Man fills in gaps of truth with lies that support his spiritual viewpoint: Man Uber Alles

Truth Separates Believers

- Truth is not benign as it exposes the World's lies; thus, the World hates truth
 - Those who have God's Logos are living examples of God's truth in the Word and separated from the World
 - Their existence dispels the lies of Lucifer and sinners
 - Without truth there would be no believers
 - Truth will not compromise with sin; sin always attacks truth

History is Man's War on Truth

- Sinful man always suppresses God's Truth; history details sinners substituting their lies for God's truth
 - Religious history distorts God to promote their lies
 - Secular history elevates man's lies over God's Truth
- Lucifer uses religious and secular history to advance his agenda of universal worship of himself over God

False Prophet is the religious agent whose sole function is to legitimize the governmental leader
Antichrist is the head of secular government who sole aim is to prepare man to worship himself
Antichrist becomes the conduit between men and Lucifer: God of this World QCo 4:1-6; Re 12:17-13:18)

Judaism Sought to Destroy Truth

- Lucifer has always sought to obfuscate the Light (Truth) of God with his lies (Darkness)
 - Old Testament always had sinners masquerading as believers to suppress the truth of God
 - Cain sought to suppress the truth of Abel via murder
 - False Jews have always sought to suppress True Jews
 - Many believers murdered for faithfulness (Mt 23:31-38)

Christendom Distorted Truth

- Since the beginning of the *First Fruits Dispensation* false teachers have distorted God's Truth with Lucifer's Lies
 - Early church suffered from many false teachers (Isa 3-5)
 - Valentinus introduced Gnosticism into the early church
 - Roman Catholicism sought to suppress the Gospel truth
 - Protestantism quickly became mired in Lucifer's lies of pietism via governmental force: Post-millennialism

Evangelicalism Rejecting Truth

- Today evangelicalism is abandoning its first love, Christ, of the philosophies (lies) of the World
 - Social Gospel movement equated the Gospel with national socialism
 - Social Justice movement equates the Gospel with international socialism
 - Scientisms of psychology, and others, are used to sway the gullible and immature from the truth of Christ

Consecration of Christ to Truth

- Christ consecrates, purifies Himself for His Paschal Lamb sacrifice
 - Christ is setting Himself apart for His coming sacrifice even as the Father had set Him aside in eternity past
 - Consecration of Christ makes possible sanctification, the setting aside, of believers from the world: He is the visible manifestation of God, as we are of Christ: All are One as All have the Logos of the Father - Truth

Purpose for Believers

- Believers are left in the World to contrast the unchangeable Truth of God with the lie of Lucifer
 - Truth reveals the lies of Lucifer (Hegemony)
- Truth is foundational corollary of God's Love (1Co 13:4-12)
 - Truth does not envy, boast, subjugate or is intolerant
 - Truth endures, never ends, because it is an attribute of God who never ends

Truth Fundamental to Gospel

- Truth is so fundamental to the Gospel that John will address this issue when Christ stands before Pilate
 - Christians should not be asking, "What is Truth?"
 - They should be studying to understand Truth in His Word by His Spirit (1Co 2:14, 13:12)
 - If we allow ourselves to be overcome by lies because of laziness to study the Scriptures who will be beacons of Light to the Darkness of the World? Who will teach? (Ro 10:10-17)

Summation of Christ's Prayer

- This portion of Christ's prayer has been primarily directed to the Apostles
 - They are listening to this prayer probably not fully understanding its implications
 - John is the only Apostle to transmit this prayer to us
 - Many aspects of this prayer will also apply to all believers as we will discuss in our next lesson