



Midtown Messenger

Volume 2

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Issue 20

Problems With Truth

The Impartial Nature Of Truth

Ronnie Scherffius

As we close out our study on the *Problems With Truth*, i.e., the reason that some have a problem with submitting to and walking according to truth, let us consider the impartial nature of truth. Have you ever considered how justice is pictured in our country? *Lady Justice* - justice personified in the person of a *blindfolded* lady holding a *downward facing sword* below a set of *balanced scales*. Each of these symbolize a particular attribute of true justice. The *scales* depict the obligation of the law to weigh the evidence presented to the court. The *sword* is a representation of the enforcement of justice and punishment to those who violate the law. The blindfold portrays the impartial nature of justice, that justice should be equal to all regardless of person, position, or power. Justice is blind!

Each of these symbols of justice are clearly born out from scripture. The scales: "Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good" (Prov. 20:23). The sword: "For he (the powers that be which are ordained of God - Rom. 13:1) is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil" (Rom. 13:4). The equality of justice: "But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons" (Col. 3:25). Again, justice is blind.

Unfortunately, in our world justice is neither blind nor equal among men. Preferential treatment is given to the wealthy and influential. If one has a friend who holds a posi-

tion of power any incriminating evidence can easily disappear. Strings are pulled, calls are made, and backroom deals are often secured to insure one's "innocence." Because man is conditioned to the injustice of preferential treatment of our society he often has a problem with the impartial nature of the truth of God's Word!

The truth of God's Word **truly** applies to all equally. Preaching to the pagan philosophers of Athens, the ancient city often honored as the "cradle of democracy," the apostle Paul declared: "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world **in righteousness** by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31). To the Corinthians Paul would write: "For we must **all** appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that **every one** may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10).

The standard of justice that all men will face is the words of the Judge himself: "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: **the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day**" (John 12:48). On that last day, the Son of man shall appear and all humanity before Him. On that last day justice will be served. On that last day there will be no partiality shown. On that last day humanity will be judged in righteousness and justice will

be blind, i.e., equal to all. On that last day justice will be according to the law of God - not the law of man. On that last day all will be weighed in the balances of God's will (cf. Dan. 5:25-28).

Man often has a problem with truth because the absolute nature of truth does not allow for compromise with the world; because the restrictive nature of truth does not permit man to be a part of this world; because the revealing nature of truth exposes to man a true picture of himself; because the impartial nature of truth will not allow one to gain an unfair advantage over the Judge. But the truth about truth is that all men should love the truth for "the truth shall set" man free from sin if he will submit. What is our attitude toward truth?

How to Avoid Speeding Tickets

I remember my first (and only) speeding ticket. I was 16-years-old and had four friends in the car. I was foolishly going about 15 mph over the speed limit when the flashing lights appeared in my mirrors. My hopes of getting off with a warning vanished with the slip of paper the officer handed to me. I was embarrassed in front of my friends, but the worst part was still to come: telling my parents.

Several years ago, I read an article entitled, "[10 Tips To Avoid Speeding Tickets.](#)" With my curiosity peaked, I drove into the article looking for some hidden gems (not that I will ever need them, of course). Most of the reasons given were pretty self-explanatory. It advised people to have better "situational awareness." It warned us to be "ready for speed traps" and to "drive a less flashy car in the slow lane." It even suggested that we "fight every ticket in court."

After making it through all 10 suggestions, there was one very clear and important tip missing - **don't speed!** Sure, sometimes the speed limit changes with-

out warning, or we accidentally have a lead foot, but if we are just conscience of our speed, we won't get a ticket. The vast majority of people who get speeding tickets deserve them. I know I deserved mine. It's interesting that, at times, the most obvious solutions are the last we think about. Too often people are looking for ways to "avoid getting caught" rather than for ways to "prevent the mistake" in the first place. This is a very crucial difference in our mindset. The impact of our mindset can even influence our salvation. 2 Corinthians 7:10 explains, "For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death" (7:10).

The "sorrow of the world" is talking about people who are just sorry they were caught. They aren't sorry they sinned. Scripture says this type of sorrow produces death.

On the other side, "sorrow according to the will of God" is talking about people who are deeply sorry they have sinned against God. Their sorrow has caused them to change their ways (i.e. repentance). This change occurs whether they are caught and punished or not. This type of sorrow leads to salvation.

Obviously, we want to do everything we can to receive salvation. This requires us to ask a tough question though, "At times we get caught in the wrong, are we sorry we got caught, or are we sorry we sinned against God?" May we never be people who just try to get away with doing wrong. Let's be people who are genuinely sorry for doing wrong, and then be dedicated to changing our ways.

-Selected-

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
Week of May 19, 2019

Sunday Morning:

Announcements: Bryant Siegel
Scripture Reading: Kirk FitzSimmons

Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread: Lupe Escojido
Fruit of the Vine: Clifton Rutherford
Offering: Don Lynn
Assist: Curtis Scherffius, Pat Gooch, Isaac Jobes

Sunday Evening: Lupe Escojido, Clifton Rutherford

Prayer

A.M. Closing: Jeff Harris
P.M. Closing: Mark FitzSimmons

Ushers: Don Lynn
Allen Clifton

Wednesday Devotional: Anthony Scherffius

Open/Close Building:

Sound System: Will Burleson

Greeters:

Don Lynn
Allen Clifton

Prepare Communion: Dolan

To Our Visitors: We welcome you to our service. Perhaps this is the first time you have visited us. It is our desire to have you return often and give us a chance to become better acquainted with you. You will find visitor cards on the back of the pew in front of you. Please fill one out.

The Summer Youth Series will begin Wednesday, June 5th. If you would like to help bring snacks for the youth, there is a sign up sheet on the hallway bulletin board.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS:

Don Blackwell and his wife, Sheri, who are recovering from a four wheeler accident. Shirley Page, in the passing of her mother, Laverne, last week. Steve Randle, who had shoulder surgery last week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2: Graduation Reception for Anthony Scherffius.
June 5: Wednesday Adult Summer Series: The New Testament Church. Speaker is Justin Guess.

AREA EVENTS

June 9: Camp Hensel begins
June 23-28: Servants Academy @ Southwest
July 21-26: Peach Valley Youth Camp

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Happy Birthday: Summer Siegel (21), Doug Jobes (23), Marilyn Horst (25)

Happy Anniversary: Roy & Marguerite Arnot (19)

There will be a graduation reception for Anthony Scherffius on Sunday, June 2, after evening worship. There will be a cake and a basket for cards.



KEEP IN PRAYER

MIDTOWN MEMBERS:

Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Dee Gilpatrick
Wayne Martin
Ann Pantel
Mickey Tissue
Clark Withers

SHUT-INS:

Faye Henderson
Sandy Malone

If you would like to add or remove a name on the "Keep in Prayer" List, please see Nina Siegel.

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

Minister: Ronnie Scherffius
Secretary: Nina Siegel

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00AM
Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00PM
Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00PM

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Week of May 12, 2019

Bible Class.....109
A.M. Worship.....137
P.M. Worship.....84
Wednesday Bible Study.....82

Offering \$5,186

THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

Each week will focus on reading a portion of the New Testament, each reading will only take 30 minutes:

Luke 7-Luke 11



SUPPORTED WORKS

India - Mani Pagidipalli
New Zealand - James & Emily Cammock
Bible Land Passages - John & Carla Moore
Southwest School of Bible Studies - Cody Kilgore

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