



Walking In The Truth

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“For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 1:3-4).

When I was young, I frequently heard the statement “Honesty is the best policy”. It is not only the best policy, it is also the right policy for everyone, and one that God honours and approves.

In our text, the apostle John greatly rejoiced when he heard the testimony that the believers in the congregation he was writing to not only had the truth, but also walked in it. Hearing of his children walking in the truth was his greatest source of joy. The joy of Joseph’s parents would have had no limit when they heard the testimony of their son’s integrity while undergoing the harshest of trials in a foreign land. It would have thrilled their hearts beyond description that their labour in instilling Godly fear into their son was not in vain. It would have increased their faith tremendously to see the faithfulness of God manifested on their son for his integrity - that what the devil plotted to destroy, God overruled and turned it to victory because the subject manifested honesty at all odds. Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever more. What he did for Joseph, he will do for anyone today who meets the criteria. His word promised: “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him...” (2 Chronicles 16:9). A life of lies and deception attract disasters and troubles to individuals, families, churches, communities and nations (See Isaiah 59:12-15).

Lies is caused by fear of man and a lack of the fear of the Lord

Isaiah 57:11 - And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not?

God hates lies and has no room for liars

Proverbs 28:13-14 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh

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them shall have mercy. 14 Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.

Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whore-mongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Psalms 101:7 - He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.

Only The Honest will qualify for heavenly citizenship

Psalms 15:1-5 - LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. 3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. 5 He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

God demands genuine honesty

Exodus 20:15-16 Thou shalt not steal. 16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

2 Corinthians 4:2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Romans 12:17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

2 Corinthians 8:21 Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.