



Fellow-helpers To The Truth

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"Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; 6 Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well: 7 Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. 8 We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth" (3 John 1:5-8).

There are certain things in life that are not negotiable. The sooner we identify and apply them to our lives, the better our lives will be. Jonah learnt it the hard way when he discovered that "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy" (Jonah 2:8). The Bible makes it clear that "... we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (2 Corinthians 13:8). Fighting against the truth is fighting a defeated battle. Ignoring the truth is simply ignoring divine timeless principles to our peril. Rejecting the truth is like burning the very bridge upon which we must travel through to our destiny. To recognise and apply the truth is to co-operate with the divine forces that will propel us to victory and success.

Our text encourages us to be fellow-helpers to the truth through our lives, actions, reception and support for strangers and those who love, live by and propagate the truth; as well as disassociating from peddlers of lies (2 John 1:10,11). Several scriptures help us to understand this better, including:

- 1) Matthew 10:40-42 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. 41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.
- 2) Matthew 12:30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.
- 3) Luke 9:47-50 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him,

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48 And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great. 49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbid him, because he followeth not with us. 50 And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us.

- 4) Matthew 25:31-40 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

How do you live your life today? Are the causes you are committed to based on the truth, and are they worth dying for? Say, in ten years time, when you look back on how you spent your life, would you be proud of what you are devoting your time and resources to now?