



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

Letters of Faith

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“These are the things which you should do: speak the truth to one another; judge with truth and judgment for peace in your gates. Also let none of you devise evil in your heart against another, and do not love perjury; for all these are what I hate,” declares the Lord.”

Zechariah 8:16-17 NASB

Dearly Beloved,

Honesty is obviously very important in God’s eyes! God not only hates lying, dishonest judgments, and perjury, He specifically declares that He commits liars—those who practice lying—the dishonest—to the second death in the lake of fire: **“...for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”** (Rev. 21:8 emphasis added)

The Holy Spirit prophetically spoke words through us 32 years ago about His priority on honesty and truth. Their impact upon us has been foundational to our personal walk with Jesus. He recently brought this prophetic word to our attention again by a stunning realization of the lack of honesty and truthfulness among our own government leaders: *“Look to the honest man. I will lead you and show you in My Word what it means to be honest. Look for honesty in those you would follow.”*

We call your attention to the words in Rom. 12:17(Amp. emphasis added): **“Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is honest and proper and noble—aiming to be above reproach—in the sight of every one.”** The Apostle Paul was extremely careful to be honest in all that he said and did. After a horrifying litany of the trials and tribulations he had endured (2 Cor. 11:23-28), Paul solemnly declared the veracity of his testimony in verse 31: **“The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.”**

How greatly we need leaders of our secular governments, as well as the Body of Christ, to follow this example! According to this prophetic word of God to us, we are to seek out men and women to lead us who have a reputation for honesty—charisma is not enough. Charm and oratorical skills are not sufficient to cover a lack of honesty, veracity, and moral character in God’s eyes, and they ought not be in our eyes either!

It has been our observation over the years of pastoring and counseling that one of the first signs that a person is involved with sin is that they begin to lie. This is an initial indication that the enemy of our souls has been given a place in our life. Jesus said: **“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.”** (John 8:44 NASB)

Most unfortunately, far too few men have “honest” as a descriptive adjective attached to their name. George Washington is one who justifiably does. He shared his heart attitude toward honesty as the author of Moral Maxims: “I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an ‘Honest Man.’”

The Holy Spirit is calling anew to the Body of Christ to be honest, to look to the honest person for leadership and counsel, and to speak forth what is noble and right and true and righteous and

straightforward. The word “honesty” implies complete fairness and openness with others and stresses freedom from deceit or fraud. God’s urgent word to us, His people, is to look for, expect to find, and insist on honesty in those we elect to lead our nation.

This is not a new idea by any means. In 1800, long before prayer in public facilities was considered politically incorrect, the second president of the United States of America, John Adams, wrote the following on the occasion of his moving into the newly-built White House: “I pray Heaven to bestow the best of Blessings on this House and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise men ever rule beneath this roof.”

Honesty permits the Word of God to take root in our hearts, to bear fruit in our lives, and to bring forth a harvest of righteousness for God’s glorious kingdom. In Jesus’ parable about the sower sowing the word of God as a farmer sows seed, He says that the seed that, “...**fell into the good ground, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as great.**” (Luke 8:8) “**And the seed in the good ground, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.**” (verse 15)

Finally, Beloved, our mutual calling to be a living witness for the work Jesus did for mankind on the cross mandates that we be honest, that we shun all the world’s attempts to force us into the devil’s mold of lies and half-truths. “**A faithful witness will not lie, but a false witness breathes out lies.**” (Prov. 14:5)

Whether it be in financial matters—like not paying our full tax obligation or not paying our debts on time and in full—or in social matters—like cribbing on an exam in school or improperly filling out an application form—all dishonesty, large or small, is an abomination to our Holy God. The wisdom of the world says lie strategically to accomplish your objectives, but God’s Word says to always speak the truth.

Jesus said: “**The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.**” (Luke 6:45) Therefore, let our prayers be according to Proverbs 8:6-9: “**Listen, for I shall speak noble things; and the opening of my lips will produce right things. For my mouth will utter truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing crooked or perverted in them. They are all straightforward to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge.**”

The Holy Spirit continued in His instruction to us so many years ago with these words: “*There is a wind coming from the north bringing death, destruction, deterioration, tearing down, and splitting in two. Face into this wind! Do not run with it, or it will surely kill, destroy, infect, and break apart. In this wind you will smell the stench, as I smell the stench, of contention, of reviling, of jealousy, and of pride. If you will stand firm as this wind tugs against you—if you will stand still as it buffets and pulls you—you will learn to recognize these things which are an abomination to Me, and which I will no longer permit to infect the Body of My Son. Cleanse yourselves of these things and listen to the words of righteousness that come forth from My servants and My prophets and My shepherds and My sheep who are serving and speaking and leading and walking victoriously on My Word.*”

Beloved, we all need to take stock of our own life’s honesty! If we feel the need (desire) to lie—to cheat, to cover up—for whatever reason or cause, we need to remember that Jesus is, “...**the way, and the truth, and the life...**” (John 14:6) Anything that draws us away from truth is not honest, is not the right way, and will not minister life.

Heavenly Father, we don’t want to compromise Your Truth with our lips or our lives! We lay down all desire to please the world of lies and embrace the fullness of Your character—Truth, honesty, voracity, and morality—in our lives.

May God’s grace, peace, honesty, and truth be yours in fullest measure!

Hugs,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul & Gretel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.