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IT'S THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

I grew up in a small town in Western Michigan. When I was in the middle school (which we called Junior High School) there was a high-profile murder that took place. A trial came and people were sworn in. Our Civics teacher took us to the trial to observe and learn from it. As they swore the people in, under oath, they were told to put their hands on the Bible and were asked, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but they truth, so help you God?" They then had to say yes or no. By saying yes, they were boldly stating that they were telling the truth in their testimony. I learned a lot from that trial.

How do we know what truth is? Once again, in Ephesians chapter 6 verse 14 it tells us, "**Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth...**" (KJV) The Amplified Bible reads, "**So stand firm and hold your ground, having tightened the wide band of truth (personal integrity, moral courage) around your waist....**"

This "belt" of truth can only be known through the studying of the Word of God. Jesus is the way, "the truth" and the life. Being the Word, that was made flesh, you will find that by studying his life and His written word, you will know truth. You cannot know real truth outside of knowing Jesus and His Word. We take the truth of His word and wear it like a belt. In a sense, truth holds things up from falling. Just like a person wears a belt on his trousers or slacks, to keep them up, the belt of truth helps us to hold things up in integrity also.

Many claim to know the truth outside of the Word of God, but it is a false truth. It will not keep you "up" when the pressure is on. It will lead you astray and cause you to stumble. There were many voices speaking in the past year. We must sift their words through the "belt of truth" to determine whether they are from God or not. If they are, then they will stand, and if they are not, they will fall.

Also, half truths are the same as a lie. Ananias and Saphira found this out and it cost them their lives. They said one thing, but it was only a half-truth. They sold property and conspired together to say it was sold for such an amount and they held the rest back. They lied to the Holy Spirit and it cost them their lives. The body of Christ is full of half-truths, and I am amazed that God has given such mercy in these days. I believe the days are here that he is exacting truth and weighing our words and actions, and many will be founding wanting. Like the handwriting on the wall in the days of Daniel, there are many building their kingdoms through half-truths. The day of reckoning is here, and many may perish in their half-truths.

God will not be mocked. We either stand all the way with truth or we are exposed for what we really are. It is time for the body of Christ to repent and be truthful in every aspect of their lives before God judges them.

God's Truth will prevail. He has the final word, and you can believe it will be all truth!