

The Trial and Triumph of Truth John 16:1-15

I. *We live in a world full of lies –*

1. *Atheism teaches the lie that there is no God, hence no need to obey God's laws –*

¹ **The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good. Psalm 14:1 (NKJV)**

2. *Evolution backs that lie by arguing that there is no need for a Creator, an explosion happened and everything we see and know is an accident, there is no meaning to life, no morality except for what we decide, this militates against the idea of human beings being Created in God's Image, and being more important than animals –*

²⁷ **So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27 (NKJV)**

3. *The politically correct viewpoint teaches that man is basically good, that there are many ways to God or goddesses and the only WRONG thing is that Jesus is the ONLY WAY –*

⁶ **Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6 (NKJV)**

4. *Human-caused catastrophic climate-change (global warming) teaches that we do not need to fear God or His wrath, but we need to fear the downfall of our climate / weather! This view also teaches that our only salvation comes from rich and powerful politicians and the only way we might be SAVED is by making these politicians RICHER and MORE POWERFUL, they say they need global power to deal with a global problem, but Biblical believing Christians believe God controls the climate and weather -*

² **The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked. The LORD has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet. Nahum 1:3**

5. *Today we are told girls can be boys and boys can be girls, and man and woman are not distinct categories, and our medical profession is getting rich(er) by performing sex change operations of children –*

²⁷ **So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27 (NKJV)**

6. *Many believe LIES win the day, because people LOVE and believe them, but the opposite is true – ¹⁴ Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. Revelation 22:14–15 (NKJV)*

7. *One of the great lies of the Jews of Jesus' day was they thought they were gaining salvation by keeping the law, good works!*

⁵ **not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, Titus 3:5 (NKJV)**

II. *Because of lies Truth-tellers are put down and persecuted, Jesus tells us this –*

16 “These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. ² They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. ³ And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. ⁴ But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. “And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. John 16:1–4 (NKJV)

1. *Jesus tells us the truth about persecution because He wants us not to stumble, but to be steadfast –*

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NKJV)

2. *This is even more needed now because Jesus is not physically present with us, and the LIARS seek to discourage those who cling to truth –*

3 Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), ² that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, ³ knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.” ⁵ For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, ⁶ by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. ⁷ But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 2 Peter 3:1–7 (NKJV)

Note what scoffers do, according to 2 Peter 3:

- A. *They walk according to their lusts - :3*
- B. *They deny Jesus’ second coming - :4*
- C. *They willfully forget the flood and deny any future judgment of God - :5-7*

They are lying to themselves and us!

III. *Jesus knew His followers would be sorrowful, but having God’s Spirit, the Spirit of Truth was their Great Advantage –*

⁵ “But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. John 16:5–6 (NKJV)

1. *Jesus’ going away, dying was causing only SORROW in the hearts of His followers - :5-6.*
2. *They were not asking Him where He was going, as they saw ZERO advantage to His death – **sorrow has filled your heart. John 16:6 B***
 - A. *The heart for us is the seat of emotion!*
 - B. *In Jesus’ day, and in the Bible, the heart is also the seat of emotion, but much MORE it was the center of a person’s being!*

- C. *Sorrow filling the heart not only took emotions, but intellect, will, thinking all aspects of their being were controlled and paralyzed by SORROW!*
- D. *They cannot ask where He is going because they sort of think they know, to death, and they cannot deal with THAT!*

3. *Yet, Jesus' going was to their and our ADVANTAGE because He was sending His Spirit, the Spirit of Truth –*

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. John 16:7 (NKJV)

- A. *He is telling them and us truth, in the midst of their SORROW!*
- B. *There is advantage to His going away –*
- C. *The advantage is the HELPER –*

IV. *What the Helper, the Spirit of Truth does –*

⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. John 16:8–11 (NKJV)

- 1. *He convicts the world –*
 - A. *Of sin – we feel guilt for wrong things we have done!*
 - B. *Of righteousness – the righteousness of Christ, a glorious LIGHT, makes sin obvious!*
 - C. *Of judgment – wrong will be judged in a dramatic way – ⁴¹ “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: Matthew 25:41 (NKJV)*

2. *Question: How does this happen? With the preaching of God's Word –*

¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must* give account. Hebrews 4:12–13 (NKJV)

3. *Sharp to cut, sharp to CAUSE spiritual pain of conscience, when God's Spirit is working with God's Word, example preaching –*

A. *Their sin was proclaimed to them -*

³⁶ “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

B. *Conviction is described, they were cut to the heart ...*

³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Acts 2:36–37 (NKJV)

C. *This conviction can SAVE, like a knife used for surgery or condemn like a sword going deeply into the heart –*

- 9 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds. Revelation 16:10–11 (NKJV)

Judgment had begun, but from sin they did not RUN!

4. *The Spirit of Truth also leads His people into all truth –*

¹² **“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you. John 16:12–15 (NKJV)**

A. *Certain things were beyond the disciples at this point, Jesus is about to die, they CANNOT think straight at this POINT! We have such times TOO! God knows, He understands – :12*

¹³ **As a father pities *his* children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him. ¹⁴ For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. Psalm 103:13–14 (NKJV)**

B. *The Spirit guide you into all truth - :13*

ALL TRUTH / Biblical Truth

- *All truth that we NEED –*

¹⁶ **All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NKJV)**

- *All truth that an ungodly world cannot see, and REJECTS –*

¹⁰ **But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”**

¹⁰ **But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. ¹⁶ For “*who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?*” But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:9–16 (NKJV)**

(1) *Eye has not seen, there are things, truths, realities that cannot be known by unaided human senses and / or intelligence – :9*

(2) *God reveals these to us by His Spirit (even the deep things of God) - :10*

(3) *This is not man’s wisdom, but God’s, the natural man, not spiritual considers such things foolishness - :13-14*

(4) *We have Christ’s mind - :16*