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THE SHURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

Article Title:

KNOWING & OBEYING THE TRUTH

Knowing the truth is essential to your eternal salvation. Jesus said, “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free” (John 8:32). Jesus was speaking of a special truth—God’s truth (John 17:17). To know the truth that frees one from the burden of sin is to know God’s Word. The Bible is the revelation of God’s Word given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 3:16-17). To know the Bible is to know divine truth. The truth revealed in the New Testament is called the gospel of Christ and is that to which all people this side of the cross are subject (Eph. 1:13; Col. 1:5).

The truth must not only be known it must also be obeyed. Inspiration declares that one’s soul is purified in “obeying the truth” (1 Peter 1:21). God tells us that one who “does not obey the truth” will suffer His wrath (Romans 2:8). When Jesus comes again He will come in flaming fire taking vengeance upon those who “obey not the gospel” (2 Thess. 1:6-9).

How does one “obey the truth”? The answer to this question is revealed in the New Testament both by command and by example. The facts are these: God loves us and in His great mercy sent Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, to die on the cross for our sins (John 3:16-17; Romans 5:8-9). It is the blood of Jesus that has the power to wash away our sins (Revelation 1:5; 1 Peter 1:18-19). The washing away of sin does not occur until one reaches or contacts the blood of Jesus. As water will not wash the dirt off one’s hands until his hands contact the water. Likewise, the blood of Jesus will not wash away our sins until we contact it. Before one may contact the blood of Jesus he must first hear the gospel truth (Acts 2:36-41; 9:35), believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (John 8:24; Mark 16:16), repent of sins (Acts 2:38; 17:30), and confess faith in Christ (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9-10). Only after these steps are completed is one ready then to contact the blood of Jesus. That contact comes in obeying the Lord’s command to be baptized into the death of Jesus. Remember that it was in the death of Jesus that He shed His blood (John 19:34). To reach His death is to reach His blood. This contact takes place in being baptized. *“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?”* (Romans 6:3a).

Friend, you can know and obey the truth. One who obeys the truth (the gospel) and lives faithful as a Christian will be granted an eternal home in heaven with God. This is our hope and we want to share this hope with you! Contact us for more information. Thanks for reading and may Go9d bless you consistent with His divine will.