



## SET FREE (New Year)

As we have entered a new year, the dear Lord has impressed upon our hearts the importance of the great value of the TRUTH to our lives. Real Truth is priceless. In **Proverbs 23:23** we read: “Buy the TRUTH, and sell it not: also wisdom, instruction and understanding.” There is absolutely no price too high to pay for Truth; and no offer high enough to tempt a wise Christian to “sell” or compromise it.

In the first place, Truth gives life; Truth liberates and sets God’s children free; Truth purifies and cleanses the heart; Truth, in addition, strengthens and establishes God’s people. How marvelous it is to know that Jesus, Himself, is THE TRUTH! It seems, never before in history has there been a time when people have been so confused and bewildered as now. Satan is doing his utmost to hold the world in countless religious deceptions, as well as doing his best to deceive, if possible, the “very elect.” (Matt. 24:24) And there are winds of many strange doctrines blowing across the land, deceiving many and causing them to backslide.

Also, many ask, as did Pilate: “What is TRUTH?” (John 18:38) They ask this, not because they really desire Truth, but are indifferent, cynical or spiritually dead. But how wonderful to know, if we from our hearts long for the Truth, JESUS Himself, will lead us into the essence of ALL that is True!. The words of Jesus thrill our hearts, when in His matchless prayer in John 17:17 – said: Thy WORD IS TRUTH”. Yes, the Bible itself is the “plum-line” by which all the sayings and characters of men are measured, as to whether they are correct and true or not. Surely, if what a person says or lives is not in harmony with God’s word, it cannot be accepted as Truth, regardless who this person may be. Indeed, we cannot judge what a person says by his calling, his education, his reputation, or if he professes to be a prophet, or even performs signs and wonders.

Only the Word Of God is an accurate measuring rod, in judging someone. “What saith the Scriptures” must surely be the basis in forming all of our opinions or decisions. And what is more challenging and authentic in the teaching of this subject than what we read in the Bible about “Walking in the truth”, Doing the Truth; Loving the Truth; and Knowing the Truth?”

As we enter another year, we are praying it may not be just a new year, but a new life to be lived just for Jesus. And we are praying earnestly that God will come to you in a might way.

*Mary Elizabeth Judd*

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