The Truth Will Set You Free

I. TRUTH and FREEDOM — 2020 Revelation

- Almost every healthy human being wants to be free. Freedom is part of the image of God. God is perfectly free. He does as He pleases and it is all good.
- Our freedom is not so perfect. The first impulse is freedom FROM. The second is freedom FOR.
- When I was a teenager, I wanted to be **free FROM** authority. I wanted to do whatever I pleased. The problem was that what pleased me didn't bring freedom. It actually brought me into bondage. Thinking I was free, I was a slave of sin.
- "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin."
- Thank God, He set me free! His grace gives us **freedom FOR** the good things He intends. His thoughts toward you are PEACE and not EVIL. He plans to prosper you and not harm you, to give you a future and a hope.
- His thoughts will set you free FROM the slavery to sin, fear and selfcentered arrogance and set you free FOR the good works you were created to live in.

A. In the Beginning was the Word

- John 1:1 In the Beginning was the **Word** and the word was with God and the word was God. 3 **All things were made** through him,....
- 14 And **the Word became flesh** and dwelt among us... 17 For the law was given through Moses; **grace** and **truth** came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

He is the visible, human expression of the invisible divine attributes.

When we see Jesus, we see the Father. We see the infinite unsurpassible love, freedom and power that belongs to God alone. Jesus translates God into humanity. He raises us into His nature.

He is the Word of the Father "now in flesh appearing."

Heb 1:1Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. [SLIDE 1]

Not only did he CREATE the Universe, but he sustains it by his WORD

3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and **he upholds the universe by the word of his power**.

B. The Word that Created You will Set You Free

- John 8:31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." [SLIDE 2]
- Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; **the son remains forever.** 36 So if the Son sets you **free**, you will be **free indeed**. [SLIDE 3]

C. The Word Opens Free Access to the Father

He declared John 14:6

[SLIDE 4]

- I AM the way the only way to arrive at abundant life and ultimate purpose. The only way to comprehend what it is to be human.
- I AM the truth the absolute correspondence with reality. The unchangeable, "same yesterday, today, and forever" standard from which all philosophies, theologies and ethics can be measured. Truth is not a construct, it is a reality. History is not fiction, it is the great story of God's purposes and actions operating through time. Truth cannot be redefined for political conve-

- nience or for "feelings." Truth is also LOVE. It is not opposed to LOVE, it is LOVE.
- I AM the life Jesus is the standard of vitality and joyful, loving existence. In his presence is fullness of joy. Absolute joy. At his right hand are pleasures forevermore. He always fills us with sheer delight. His joy is our strength. He came to give us abundant, overflowing life that is full of goodness, that is Eden restored.
- None of this is subject to ambition, greed or arrogance. In him is no "will to power" for **he has all power** and **all authority.** He has always had it. It is never in question. What He says goes. He is God and He is human.
- Belief doesn't make something true; Truth makes a belief true.
- All truth is God's truth and is true everywhere, for everyone, under all conditions.

TRUTH doesn't pass away in time, doesn't evolve.

- Isa. 40:6 A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ...8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.
- Matt 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. [SLIDE 5]
- God's word is always up to date. In fact, is is way out in the future. "As it was in the beginning is now and till the end, woman draws her life from man and gives it back again, and there is love..."

Jesus is not just "my truth," or "a truth," He is THE TRUTH!

III. The Word Made Flesh in HIS PEOPLE

A. Incarnation — in Revelation of the Word by the Spirit Jesus is the final WORD, He is the eternal TRUTH

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. [SLIDE 6]

2Tim 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in right-eousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

[SLIDE 7]

Do you feel the warmth of His breath?

Transforming us by the renewing of our minds.

B. Incarnation — Worship in Spirit and Truth

John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Every activity is to be worship. Working. Talking. Studying. Humility, kindness, respect, confidence, overflowing with hope.

C. Incarnation — Transformed by the Holy Spirit

- John 16:12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the **Spirit of truth** comes, he will **guide** you into **all** the **truth**, ... [SLIDE 8]
- 14 He will glorify me, for **he will take what is mine** and **declare it to you**. 15 **All** that the **Father has** is **mine**; ...

D. Incarnation — Transformed by His Voice

John 18:37 ... I have come into the world—to **bear witness to the truth**. Everyone who is **of the truth** *listens to my voice.*" 38 Pilate said to him, **"What is truth?"** ... went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him.

IV. The Body and the Blood – Distribute

A. Communion with ALL THAT IS HIS

John 6:4 Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.

- 10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." ... 11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted.

 [SLIDE 8]
- 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. [SLIDE 10]
- 53 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.... 55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. 56 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

B. Communion with His Humanity and His Covenant

1Cor 10:16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

To all who are weary..."Come to Me and I will GIVE you Rest"

1Cor 11:23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same manner He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.