

# Jesus Is The Way

## Lesson 3: Jesus Is The Way To Truth



Discovering God's Word  
Bible Study Series

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**Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series**

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# Lesson 3: Jesus Is The Way To Truth

## Introduction

A. Now that we have considered finding and following Jesus, we need to begin considering some things Jesus leads us to (John 14:6). As we do so, we must recognize that Jesus is the way to truth. In fact, Jesus is the truth!

B. In a world that is full of confusion and false information, Jesus will perfectly lead you to what is true. And, this truth will have eternal implications for your soul.

C. There is confusion and false information everywhere you look in this world. People are constantly doing whatever they believe is right by their own consciences. And, even among religious people, there is a great deal of confusion and conflicting information.

1. We should not be surprised at this. After all, Satan is the great deceiver who has spread lies and deceptions throughout the world (John 8:44).

2. Just as the first sin in this world occurred because of Satan's deception (when he tempted Eve), Satan's continued deceptions in the world lead many people to sin and spiritual destruction. However, most do not recognize they have been deceived. Instead, most people think they believe what is right and true.

D. Purpose: To learn that Jesus is the way to truth in a deceived and confused world.

## 1. There Is An Absolute Standard Of Truth

A. Objective versus subjective standards of truth

1. One of the biggest questions that must be answered in life is: What is truth? (John 18:38). This question receives many different answers today – and the answer will determine how people live.

- At the heart of this question is whether absolute truth even exists or whether all “truth” is open to personal interpretation and judgment.

2. Many people reject the concept of an absolute standard of truth and believe in the concept of a subjective standard of truth. Therefore, what is true for one person may not be true for another. These people see “truth” as an evolving concept.

- Under a subjective standard of truth, everyone must simply find their “personal truth” to live by. And, this standard can be changed by many factors (i.e. popular opinion). So, as long as an individual feels that something is right (if it is done in “good conscience”), then the standard of truth is met.
- One problem with this approach to “truth” is that what is true for one person is not the same truth for another person. For, there are many factors that go into how a person’s conscience is trained (i.e. culture, tradition, parents, education, etc.). Therefore, subjective standards of truth will always lead people to do whatever they believe to be right within themselves rather than looking to a singular standard of truth.
- As long as people look to different standards to establish truth, there will never be agreement on what is right and wrong!

2. The alternative to everyone living according to subjective standards of truth is for people to recognize one “objective” standard of truth. An objective standard of truth is *not* dependent on a person’s feelings or personal interpretation. The truth is just the truth!

B. God is always true

1. God is always true and the definition of what is right. God’s holiness means He is completely separated from everything evil (Revelation 4:8; 1 John 1:5; Habakkuk 1:13).

2. Since God is real and holy, He is the only one who gets to define what is right and wrong. He is the only one who has the power to punish those who live contrary to His standard of truth and reward those who obey it. And, He is the only one who has the right to impose His standard of truth on others.

- Everyone and everything else have been created. Therefore, they are not capable of perfect knowledge of all things. So, ask yourself: “Will I acknowledge God as the perfect standard of truth – or will I follow something or someone who has been created?”

### C. God’s word is true

1. Since God is perfect, everything He says is also perfectly true. In fact, it is against God’s nature to say anything false (Titus 1:2).

- It is not just that God has never lied. Instead, it is an *impossibility* for God to lie!

2. This makes the words God has spoken absolute truth (John 17:17). These perfect words of God are now revealed in the pages of the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

### D. Anything against God’s word is sin

1. Since God’s word is true, violating those words is called “sin.” And, sin has serious spiritual consequences.

- 1 John 3:4 identifies sin as practicing lawlessness. To be lawless is to act as if there is no law you must live by. Instead, you just act in whatever way you want to live. So, if you live by any other standard than God’s revealed truth, you are guilty of sin!

2. Committing sin is *not* an insignificant thing (Romans 6:23). When you sin, you deserve to be separated from God (this is spiritual “death”). And, if your earthly life ends while you are guilty of sin, you will experience the “second death” in Hell fire (Revelation 21:8).

### E. God’s word will judge everyone

1. It is no insignificant thing to reject God’s standard of truth. For, His revealed truth will judge us all one Day (John 12:48; Revelation 20:12)!

- The “books” in Revelation 20:12 are the books that contain God’s words. Therefore, everything you do, say, and think during your lifetime will be evaluated by these words. Based on this, you will either spend eternity in Heaven or Hell.

2. No other standard will judge you on this Day! Although you may choose to ignore God's truth now and live according to some other standard that is more appealing to you, you will come face-to-face with God's words on Judgment Day, with eternity hanging in the balance!

## **2. The Importance Of Knowing The Truth**

### **A. The truth saves you from sin**

1. Everyone who has reached the point of spiritual maturity and personal accountability has sinned – except for Jesus (Romans 3:23). Therefore, everyone deserves to experience the consequences of sin.

2. The truth God has revealed is able to “sanctify” us (John 17:17). This is to set us apart for devotion to God. Those who have rebelled against God can be brought back into a right relationship with God through His truth (John 8:31-32).

- The “gospel” is God's power for salvation to everyone who believes (Romans 1:16). This message reveals what God has done to save us through Jesus and what God requires us to do for salvation. No other source of information provides us with everything we need to know to live for God and be saved!

### **B. The truth keeps you from sin**

1. Once you learn the truth to be saved from your past sins, the truth of God's words also helps you stay away from future sin. Since sin occurs by violating God's revealed truth, His truth will keep you from sin.

- Satan will continue trying to deceive you – just as he deceived Adam and Eve after God had given them a law (Genesis 2:16-17; Genesis 3:1-5).

2. If you will arm yourself with the truth God has revealed, you can defeat Satan! This is a key part of the spiritual armor God has given you to defeat Satan (Ephesians 6:10-18; Psalm 119:11).

### **C. The truth saves others**

1. Not only can the truth save you from past sins and keep you from future sin, but it can also do the same for others!

- God wants those who believe and obey His truth to teach His truth to others (2 Timothy 2:24-26).

2. The truth always works to set people free and enables them to live for God. So, when you follow the truth, you must work to lead others to learn and obey the truth so they can be saved – and they should also work to lead others to this same truth (2 Timothy 2:2)!

### **3. God Speaks Today Through Jesus**

#### **A. God spoke in different ways in the past**

1. God has communicated His words of truth to people in different ways throughout history through various prophets (Hebrews 1:1).

- God spoke directly to some (i.e. Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses). He spoke to some through the law He gave to Moses. He spoke to some through prophets (i.e. Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Daniel, Hosea, Micah, etc.). He spoke to some through visions and dreams (i.e. Joseph, King Nebuchadnezzar, etc.).

2. As you consider all the words God has communicated prior to Jesus, they were all only meant to be temporary to lead people to Jesus. They were not intended to be the final system of law God would provide (Matthew 5:17-18; Galatians 3:19-26; Colossians 2:14).

- The Law and the Prophets would be fulfilled through Jesus and nailed to His cross in order to bring about a new and better law!

#### **B. Jesus spoke while He was on earth**

1. Hebrews 1:2-3. Jesus laid the foundation for this new and better law while He was on the earth (though He lived under the Old Law).

- Consider how Jesus demonstrated that His law was different from commonly held beliefs at the time (i.e. Matthew 5:21-22). As He laid the framework for His new law, He taught about various aspects of His kingdom – often teaching through the parables.

2. As you consider all that Jesus taught while He was on the earth, recognize that He too cannot lie. So, Jesus taught that everyone who is of the truth listens to His voice (John 18:37). And, Jesus said that those who

would continue in His word would know the truth and be set free by it (John 8:31-32).

C. Jesus continues to speak through New Testament writers

1. Although Jesus does not live on this earth today so we can hear Him speak today with our own ears, God *does* continue speaking through Him today. For, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to His apostles – who would remind them of what Jesus taught while He was on the earth as well as reveal additional teachings from Jesus (John 14:25-26)

- All these teachings revealed through the Holy Spirit were from Jesus, who declared the Father's will (John 16:12-15).

2. As the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles and prophets, they wrote Jesus's words in the New Testament (Ephesians 3:3-5).

3. When Jesus promises to judge us by the words He has spoken (John 12:48), these are not just the words He spoke while He was on this earth. Instead, these are all the words contained in the New Testament, as revealed through the Holy Spirit!

- This is what the apostle Paul claimed about His own writing (1 Corinthians 14:37; 1 Thessalonians 2:13). These messages reveal the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16).

#### **4. Everything Must Be Done In Jesus's Name**

A. Bible authority is essential to pleasing God

1. To please God and live according to His absolute truth, we must do everything in Jesus's name (Colossians 3:17). To do everything in His name is to do everything by His authority (i.e. having His approval).

- To know that you have Jesus's approval, you must have authority for whatever you do expressed in the New Testament – since Jesus speaks to us in the New Testament.

2. There is no other way to know what you are doing or saying pleases God! For, you cannot know the absolute truth that exists in the mind of God unless He reveals it. And, He has only revealed what is in His mind today through Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

3. No other standard of authority is sufficient for determining what is right or wrong. Popular opinion, human traditions, individual



conscience, personal opinions, human teaching, etc. are not the proper standard of authority.

## B. How to establish Bible authority

1. There are three ways through which we can establish Bible authority and know God is pleased with something.

2. Through a direct command or statement from God in the New Testament Scriptures. For example, baptism is commanded in Acts 2:38. So, we know that it is right to be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins – and we must do so to please God.

3. Through an approved example in the New Testament Scriptures. While there are Bible examples of many things (including murder, idolatry, greed, etc.), only examples that show God's approval are authoritative. For example, Acts 8:38-39 shows an approved example of baptism. So, we know it is right to be baptized.

4. Through a forced conclusion from the New Testament Scriptures. This is a conclusion that is *necessary* and *unmistakable* (not a guess or something speculated). For example, Acts 8:38-39 also forces us to the conclusion that the Ethiopian man was fully immersed in water (as they went down into the water and came up out of the water). So, we know it is right to be baptized by immersion in water.

## Conclusion

A. Jesus is the way to truth! Absolute truth does exist – and God is its source. Anything contrary to this truth is sin. We must learn this absolute truth to be saved from our past sins, avoid sin in the future, and help others be saved from sin.

B. Today, God has communicated absolute truth through Jesus Christ, as we can now read in the pages of the New Testament. So, to please God and go to Heaven, we must do everything according to Jesus's authority in the New Testament Scriptures!

## **Study Questions**

How has Satan worked to spread confusion and false information in the world?

### **1. There Is An Absolute Standard Of Truth**

What is the difference between an objective and subjective standard of truth?

Why is God always true?

Why are God's words always true?

What is the connection between God's word and sin?

How will God's word impact your eternal destination?

### **2. The Importance Of Knowing The Truth**

How is the truth important to your past sin?

How is the truth important to avoiding sin?

How is the truth important to saving others?

### **3. God Speaks Today Through Jesus**

How has God communicated the truth to people in the past?

What role did Jesus have in speaking truth while He was on the earth?

How does Jesus continue to speak today?

### **4. Everything Must Be Done In Jesus' Name**

What is Bible authority and why is it so important?

How can you establish Bible authority?

