

## God's Truth/Satan's Lies (Go To Meeting) Albert Jones

It is important for all of us to remember that it's not any one part of God's way of life or His Word, it's the entire package. If I took the time tonight to go through every one of God's Truths, obviously there wouldn't be enough time.

If I tried to espouse all of Satan's deceptions in the world today, there wouldn't be enough time. But I think there's a very important message to be had here in what I'm trying to convey.

God is Truth, and everything about God's way is based on Truth. We'll talk a little bit about the depth of what Truth means from God's point of view and how we should perceive Him as being a God of Truth. Everything that comes from God is steeped in His Truth.

Also, in the same respect, we have Satan the devil who is a real being. He is out there and has deceived the world to the extent that we see today in many, many ways.

We will begin in Hosea in talking through this message regarding God's Truths and Satan's Lies. When you look at God's Word in the book of Hosea, He makes a fair point:

Hosea 1:1: "Hear the Word of the LORD, children of Israel, for the LORD *has* a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, 'There is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.'"

When God speaks to the children of Israel, He is speaking to all men. That is important to remember, that the Bible and all of the examples, messages and prophecies—all things there—are based on a relationship that God had with Abraham and His descendants Israel in the Word of God, which preserved those examples and inner actions and inner play there that relationship.

When I read this: "Hear the Word of the LORD, children of Israel..." *He is speaking to Israel, but He is also speaking to all mankind, as you will see as we go through the Scriptures!*

Verse 2: "By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and the committing of adultery they break out; and blood touches blood. Therefore, shall the land mourn, and everyone who dwells in it shall languish, with the beasts of the field and with the birds of the heavens. Yes, the fish of the sea shall also be taken away. Yet, let no man strive, nor reprove another, for your people *are* as those who strive with the priest. And you shall stumble in the day, and the prophet also shall stumble with you *in*

*the* night, and I will destroy your mother. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you from being as a priest to Me. Since you have forgotten the Law of your God, I will also forget your children" (vs 2-6).

This is a stern warning that God is giving to people who would read the Scripture and understand its meaning. There is one Source of *true knowledge and understanding* in the world that is worth having.

Exodus shows us one more thing, and the point that would make is about God speaking to the people of Israel, it was written down as a record for all mankind to hear and understand.

Exodus 12:48: "And when a stranger shall dwell with you, and desires to keep the Passover... [one of the most Holy of God's sacred Feasts<sup>[transcriber's correction]</sup> ...to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it. And he shall be as one that is born in the land. And no uncircumcised person shall eat of it. There shall be one Law to the one born at home and to the stranger that dwells among you" (vs 48-49).

This is God dealing with this nation only. This is God having revealed Himself to this nation, and His ways to this nation. Therefore, He says that if one should join themselves to Israel, the stranger, that there would be *one Law* that they would all adhere to.

Numbers 9:14: "And if a stranger shall live among you, and will keep the Passover to the LORD, he shall do according to the law of the Passover, and according to its ordinance. You shall have *only* one Law, both for the stranger and for him that was born in the land."

God is dealing with a specific nation and those who are drawn to the example of Israel at that time; they were governed by the Law of God as Israel was expected to be governed.

Numbers 15:13: "All that are native *of the children of Israel* shall do these things in this way, to offer an offering made by fire for a sweet savor to the LORD. And if a stranger stays with you, or whoever *is* among you in your generations, and will offer an offering made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD; as you do, **so he shall do**. One ordinance for you of the congregation and also for the stranger that resides *with you*, an ordinance forever in your generations. As you are, so the stranger shall be

before the LORD. **One law and one way shall be for you and for the stranger that lives with you**" (vs 13-16).

Here is the ultimate Truth that all mankind will come to understand ultimately, and that is ***only one God, one true God, and there is only one way and one true way!***

As we know in God's Church, God's way is not a religion or practice of things, it is indeed a way of life that we live. We understand that ***God is Truth!*** God is the only Truth there is. All good that is *good* is from Him.

It's very important for us not to be deceived by the 'goodness' that we see in the world. The goodness in the world does not equate to the righteousness of God. That's something that we understand that has been revealed to us as a Truth in God's Word. Good people in the world does not mean that they are in right standing before God.

James 1:12: "**Blessed is the man who endures trials, because after he has been proved he shall receive a crown of life...**"

We know that even though we have promises from God and assurances from God, trials have a specific purpose in terms of developing Godly character within us. We know that even through trials God is with us.

"...which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Do not let anyone who is tempted say, 'I am being tempted by God,' because God is not tempted by evil, and He Himself tempts no one *with evil*. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away and is enticed by his own lust. And after lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is completely finished, brings forth death. Do not deceive yourselves, my beloved brethren. Every good act of giving and **every perfect gift is from above...**" (vs 12-17). *It does not come from the world!*

It does not come from the accolades of men. It comes from God Himself!

"...coming down from the Father of lights, with Whom there is no variation, nor shadow of turning.... [this is the perfection that God is] **...According to His own will, He begat us by the Word of Truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all His created beings**" (vs 17-18).

Here we are called of God, called to understand the Truth of God. I think that all of us at some time in our life in God's Church have had that revelation and even discussed it amongst ourselves in fellowship:

- How long have you understood the Truth?

- How long have you had this understanding of God's Word?

### ***God's Word is Truth!***

This is something that was revealed to us; we're thankful to God for it, and it is not by the power of men that we understand these things.

Gen. 24—Abraham is speaking to his servant regarding a wife for Isaac. There's a point brought out here very clearly.

I ask myself: What is the Truth of God? *It's more than just understanding a specific understanding of God's Word!* Truth is the defined as an assurance from God. It is an absolute, an affirmation, a perfect doctrine, an assurance that you can count on. The Word comes out of God's mouth and it is absolute.

Why? When you think about it, why is the Word of God true and everyone else that may speak should be a lie?

- it comes from the Creator of all things
- it comes from God Himself
- it originates from the Creator
  - it isn't invented by the lies of men
  - it isn't based on the 'wisdom' of men

*It is affirmed from the Creator Himself!* Truth is an assurance, and then when we walk by faith, we walk because we believe the Word of God. When God says it, ***it is!***

When God says that you should do something because it hurts you, it's not because He wants to keep good things from you. It's because He understands that if you do that, it's not good for you. It doesn't result in the kinds of things that God is looking for that God wants for His people. So, keep that in mind as we read through these Scriptures:

Genesis 24:1: "And Abraham was old, well advanced in age. And the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things... [as God said He would] ...And Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, 'I pray you, put your hand under my thigh. And I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell. But you shall go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac'" (vs 1-4).

Verse 5: "And the servant said to him, 'Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land. Must I then bring your son again to the land from which you came?' And Abraham said to him, 'Take care that you do not bring my son there

again. The LORD, the God of heaven, Who took me from my father's house and from the land of my kindred, and Who spoke to me, and Who swore to me, saying, "To your seed I will give this land"—He shall send His angel before you. And you shall take a wife for my son from there. And if the woman will not be willing to follow you, then you shall be clear from this oath of mine. Only do not bring my son there again" (vs 5-8).

Was Abraham taking a chance that his son Isaac would go back to the land of which he had already promised God that he wouldn't do. *NO!* Abraham believed God's Word and had confidence that God would do before his son.

Verse 9: "And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning the matter."

Verse 15: "And it came to pass before he had finished speaking, that behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, *with* her pitcher upon her shoulder. And the young woman *was* very beautiful to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her. And she went down to the well and filled her pitcher, and came up. And the servant ran to meet her, and said, 'Please let me drink a little water from your pitcher.' And she said, 'Drink, my lord.' And she hurried and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave a drink to him. And when she had finished giving him drink, she said, 'I will draw *water* for your camels also until they have finished drinking'" (vs 15-19).

Verse 20: "And she hurried, and emptied her pitcher in the trough, and ran again to the well to draw *water*. And she drew for all his camels. And the man was watching her, keeping silent, in order to know whether the LORD had prospered his journey or not. And it came to pass, when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands, weighing ten shekels of gold. And he said, 'Whose daughter *are* you? Please tell me. Is there room in your father's house for us to stay?' And she said to him, 'I *am* the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.' And she said to him, 'We have both straw and fodder enough, and room to lodge in'" (vs 20-25).

So, this man recognized the promise that Abraham assured him would occur.

Verse 26: "And the man bowed down *his head*, and worshiped the LORD." *He didn't worship the woman, he worshipped the Lord!*

Verse 27: And he said, 'Blessed *be* the LORD, God of my master Abraham, Who has not left my master destitute of His mercy and His

Truth...."

Here Truth is assurance of His Word. God told Abraham that this would happen for him and it did.

"...The LORD led me, I *being* in the way, to the house of my master's brothers.' And the young woman ran and told her mother's household these things" (vs 27-28).

Again, this is the assurance referring to the Truth, the mercy and Truth of God. When we talk about God's Truth, we're not just talking about an understanding of His Word, *we're talking about Who He is!* We're talking about *His words that one can depend on, that His Way is the way that leads to life!* I just wanted to emphasize that there.

We contrast God's Truth and way of things to Satan the devil, who is opposed to everything that is good and true. Satan traffics and deals in lies.

Initially, when I was studying this, I wanted to immediately go to the book of Genesis. But let's go to Revelation first. This Scripture, I believe, both points to the present, the past and to the future. It's one of those Scriptures that has meaning throughout God's Word.

Revelation 12:1: "Then there appeared a great wonder in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and *having* the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. And being with child, she cried in travail, and was in pain to deliver. And another sign was seen in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns on his heads; and his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to deliver, so that he might devour her child when she gave birth. And she gave birth to a man Child, Who was to shepherd all the nations with a rod of iron; and her Child was caught up to God and His Throne. And the woman escaped into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there *for* a thousand two hundred *and* sixty days" (vs 1-6).

Verse 7: "And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels warred against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels warred. But they did not prevail, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And **the great dragon was cast out, the ancient serpent who is called the Devil and Satan, who is deceiving the whole world;** he was cast down to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him" (vs 7-9).

Verse 10: "And I heard a great voice in heaven say, 'Now has come the salvation and the power and the Kingdom of our God, and the

authority of His Christ because the accuser of our brethren has been cast down, **who accuses them day and night before our God.** But they overcame him through the blood of the Lamb, and through the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death” (vs 10-11).

We see in this series of Scriptures references to the past, to the present and into the Kingdom regarding the difference of what God offers us through Christ, and what Satan the devil tries to take away from us, because of his diabolical thinking, his will to destroy.

Genesis 3:1: “Now, the serpent was more cunning than any creature of the field, which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman...”

***Satan's approach is to sow doubt, confusion and fear!***

“...*Is it true that God has said, “You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?”*” (v 1).

This is his ‘play on words’ to begin to get you to doubt God’s Word.

Verse 2: “And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may freely eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the middle of the garden, God has *indeed* said, “You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.”’ And the serpent said to the woman, ‘In dying, you shall not surely die! For God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be like God, **deciding**... [to ascertain and observe by experimentation and human reasoning what is] ...**good and evil**” (vs 2-6).

Good and evil has already been identified for us. We don’t have to reason what it is, what we have to do is believe God’s Word when He says that *evil is evil, and good is good!* That is what we need to do.

Verse 6: “And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food... [reasoning] ...and that it was pleasing to the eyes... [reasoning from a human point of view] ...and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. **And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden** in the cool of the day. **Then Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden**” (vs 6-8).

If you can imagine that; running and hiding from God when you know that He is there! God didn’t abandon them, He said:

Verse 9: “And the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, ‘Where *are* you?’”

I think that God calls to us in many, many way. God says that He would never leave nor forsake us.

Verse 10: “And he [Adam]said, ‘I heard You *walking* in the garden, and I was afraid because I *am* naked, and *so* I hid myself.’ And He [God] said, ‘Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten of the tree, which I commanded you that you should not eat?’” (vs 10-11). *Simple formula:*

God commands us to do the things that are good for us. God does not command us to do things to hurt or spite us. He commands us to do the things that are good for us, because those things are good and true and what we should walk in.

This began this whole diabolical system of deception with God’s creation. What do we have as a result of that? When you think about it: *all of the destruction that occurred on the other side of the Flood!* Let’s look at the state of things as they were, resulting generations from this intrusion on Satan’s part and to God’s creation:

Genesis 6:1: “And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth... [men and women] ...and when daughters were born to them, *that* the sons of the mighty ones saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves from all whom they chose. And the LORD said, ‘My Spirit shall not always strive with man in his **going astray**... [From what? *Astray from God’s way and Truth!*] ...for he is but flesh, and yet, his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.’ (vs 1-3)

Verse 4: “There were tyrants... [giants or those who have fallen away from God] ...on the earth in those days, and also after that, the sons of God... [there is a Scriptural meaning there] ...came into the daughters of men, and they bore *children* to them. They were mighty men who *existed* of old, men of renown. And the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great on the earth, and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. And the LORD repented that He had made man on the earth, and He *was* grieved in His heart. And the LORD said, ‘I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, and the crawling thing, and the fowl of the air; for I repent that I have made them’” (vs 4-7)

Verse 8: “**But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.** These *are* the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man and perfect in his generations, **for Noah walked with God**” (vs 8-9).

Not opposed to God, not opposite Him; Noah walked in God's way. Here's another inevitable truth that all mankind and we in God's Church need to understand, and mankind's eventual understanding of this Truth.

***To walk in God's way is the only way to have true prosperity in life!*** If you seek life, then you should seek after God's Truth and His way, and that's the way that leads to life abundant.

God destroys man on the earth, except for the eight in the ark, and then we come to this side of the Flood. We know that Satan is still influencing and around. So, mankind takes another dive, but God is doing something profound this side of the Flood.

I'm going to now skip to that aspect of this message. God begins to reveal Himself to mankind in a way that is not done before. He starts to reveal Himself through his relationship with Abraham. This is a physical relationship and one based on physical blessings and spiritual promises, and this included his descendants.

Genesis 15:1: "After these things the Word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, 'Fear not, Abram, I *am* your shield and your exceedingly great reward.' And Abram said, 'Lord GOD, what will You give me since I go childless, and the heir of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'Behold, You have given no seed to me; and lo, one born in my house is my heir'" (vs 1-3).

Verse 4: "And behold, the Word of the LORD *came* to him saying, 'This man shall not be your heir; but he that shall come forth out of your own loins shall be your heir.' And He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward the heavens...'" (vs 4-5).

We have gone through all the understanding of these Scriptures through Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread and leading up to Pentecost in terms of their significance.

"...and number the stars—if you are able to count them.' And He [God] said to him, 'So shall your seed be.' And he [Abram] believed in the LORD. And He accounted it to him for righteousness. And He said to him, 'I *am* the LORD that brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give you this land to inherit it.' And he said, 'Lord GOD, by what shall I know that I shall inherit it?' And He said to him, 'Take Me a heifer...'" (vs 6-9).

There again, here we have the promise made to Abram, but God goes one step further and even enters into an oath with him.

We are familiar with the story of the maledictory oath and the covenant that God made with Abram.

Let's go to Roman for the additional emphasis on the point of believing the Truth, believing God's Word and believing God.

Romans 4:1: "What then shall we say *that* our father Abraham has found with respect to *the* flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has a basis for boasting, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? 'And Abraham believed God, and it was imputed to him for righteousness'" (vs 1-3).

Again, it wasn't based on works; Abraham's faith resulted in works, *true*, but the righteousness was the imputing of righteousness.

There are many things that this example points to. It point wholly to Christ and the message that He brought.

John 18—this entire chapter points to Christ's Messiahship and His purpose for coming and revealing the Father to us. I want to focus in on six key things or key truths that we should always hold onto in our walk before God. It's very important in this day and time, because you'll have all kinds of philosophies and beliefs in the world that are defined or being put forward as truth. They sound so convincing.

### **1. There is only one true God**

But here is something key we have to keep in mind, and that we have to hold onto. The first thing I want us to understand is that we have to have the true God, the one true God. We have to make sure that we are believing in that God, the one true God.

Malachi 2:10: "Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously, each man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?"

- Is that not true?
- Has not one God created all mankind?

When I said earlier that when God spoke to Israel and it became a record in the Scriptures for all men to read:

- Was He not speaking to us as well? *Yes!*

*We are currently within the spiritual aspect of God's calling, and not so much the physical!* Definitely the words apply to us.

Romans 3:30: "Since *it is* indeed one God Who will justify *the* circumcision by faith, and *the* uncircumcision through faith. Are we, then,

abolishing *the* Law through faith? MAY IT NEVER BE! Rather, we are establishing *the* Law” (vs 30-31).

We obey God's Law, and it is the one God Who gave the Law.

Verse 28: “Consequently, we reckon that a man is justified by faith, separate from works of law. *Is He* the God of the Jews only?... [that isn't taking away anything, it is stating a truth] ...*Is He* not also *the God of the Gentiles*? YES! *He is* also God of the Gentiles, since *it is* indeed one God Who will justify *the* circumcision by faith, and *the* uncircumcision through faith” (vs 28-30).

One God that all mankind needs to come to know and understand.

1-Corinthians 8:5: “For indeed, even if there are *those* which are called gods, whether in heaven or on earth, as there are many gods and many lords, still, to us *there is* one God the Father, from Whom *are* all things, and we *are* in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom *are* all things, and we *are* by Him” (vs 5-6).

Very important truths that we come to understand: There is one true God, not many gods, not many variations of God, not many feelings about God. ***There is one true God!***

## **2. You have to have the True Father**

There are many faiths in the world who refer to their spiritual leaders as ‘father.’ But God is the One True Father!

1-Corinthians 8:6: “Still, to us *there is* **one God the Father...**”

Matthew 11:25: “At that time Jesus answered and said, ‘I praise You, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have revealed them to babes. Yes, Father, for it was well pleasing in Your sight *to do* this. All things were delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; neither does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son personally chooses to reveal *Him*’” (vs 25-27).

We ask Christ to reveal the Father to us. We ask in understanding. He did that and we pray directly to the Father in Christ's name, as He instructed us.

1-Peter 1:16: for it is written, ‘You be Holy because I am Holy.’ And if you call upon the Father, Who judges according to each man's work without respect of persons, pass the time of your *life's* journey in *the* fear of God; knowing that you were not redeemed by corruptible things, by silver or gold, from your futile way of living...” (vs 16-18)—

*which is contrary to God's way; that's the way Satan has invented for the world to follow, the futile way!*

“...inherited *by tradition* from *your* forefathers; but by *the* precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot; Who truly was foreknown before *the* foundation of *the* world, but was manifested in *these* last times for your sakes; *even for you* who through Him do believe in God, Who raised Him from *the* dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope might be in God” (vs 18-21).

That is the true Father, the true God, having our hope and faith in them. God tells us very clearly that we are to emulate Him, the one Father!

Matthew 5:48: “Therefore, you shall be perfect, even as your Father Who *is* in heaven is perfect.”

## **3. You have to have the True Son**

The next thing we need to keep close to our heart and understanding as we drill it into our psyche. There are false christs, and there will be false christs at the end.

2-John 3: “Grace, mercy, *and* peace shall be with us from God *the* Father, and from *the* Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.”

That is that Christ is the true Son of God, and He definitely exhibits love toward us and that He gave His life.

Colossians 1:12: “Giving thanks to the Father, Who has made us qualified for the share of the inheritance of the saints in the Light; Who has personally rescued us from the power of darkness and has transferred *us* unto the Kingdom of **the Son of His love**; in Whom we have redemption through His own blood, *even* the remission of sins; Who is *the* image of the invisible God, *the* Firstborn of all creation; because by Him were all things created, the things in heaven and the things on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or lordships, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him and for Him” (vs 12-16).

Having not only the understanding that He is the Son, but He is our elder Brother, our Advocate, our High Priest. He has an office at the right hand of God the Father to do so many things, and offer so many gifts to us.

## **4. There's one True Spirit**

A Spirit that emanates from God is given to us!

John 4:23: "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth; for the Father is indeed seeking those who worship Him in this manner. God *is* spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and in Truth" (vs 23-24).

We have to recognize that the Spirit comes from God as a power in us. It does many things, including revealing God's Truth to us.

### 5. There is one true Way

There aren't many ways, it's not the broad way. It's the straight, narrow and difficult Way. We want to emphasize these truths that God has revealed to us, and His Way is the only Way!

John 14:6: "Jesus said to him, '**I am the Way**, and the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'" *Christ is the Way, so we follow Him!*

- we walk in His ways as revealed through His Word
- we see His example in the Gospels
- we are inspired by the Holy Spirit from Christ as well as from the Father
- we endeavor and strive to walk in that way

### 6. Always look to the true words of God

There are many, many translations of God's Word that have been put forth. Variations! Some to suit the need of the reader. It is not to preserve the authenticity of God's Word as much as it is to appease the needs of the people reading the book.

But we need to always seek out God's true words, and understanding His true intent and Gospel.

Isaiah 30:8: "Now go, write it before them in a tablet, and note it in a book, so that it may be for the time to come forever and ever, that this *is* a rebellious people, lying children. They are children who will not hear the Law of the LORD; who say to the seers, 'See not,' and to the prophets, 'Do not prophesy to us right things, speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions'" (vs 8-10).

There is where these mis-translations are put forward to just do this: *to appease the reader to suit their needs!* The Word of God is too hard for them. The God of the Old Testament is too mean for them.

***God is the same today and forever!***

Verse 11: "'Go out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.' Therefore, thus says the Holy One of Israel, 'Because you have despised this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and rely on

them; therefore, this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant'" (vs 11-13).

We are alert and we have been watching! We have been careful to make sure that we see the trends and cycles that are occurring around us so that we can draw near to God and keep our noses in His Word so that these things don't catch us unaware.

Yes, there's turmoil all around the world and all kinds of things are happening, well before the pandemic, well before all the things that we see today. But God's Word has always been true! He tells us specifically this is how you can have life.

1-John 1:1: "That which was from *the* beginning, that which we have heard, that which we have seen with our own eyes, that which we observed for ourselves and our own hands handled, concerning the Word of Life; (and the life was manifested, and we have seen, and are bearing witness, and are reporting to you the eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested to us);

So God, through Christ—the Word of God—manifested Him both His Word and life to us.

Verse 3: "That which we have seen and have heard we are reporting to you in order that you also may have fellowship with us; for the fellowship—indeed, our fellowship—*is* with the Father and with His own Son Jesus Christ."

That speaks to where we go to find the true words of God.

1-John 2:14: "I wrote to you, fathers, because you have known Him Who *is* from *the* beginning. I wrote to you, young men, because you are strong, and the Word of God is dwelling in you, and you have overcome the wicked *one*."

Here we go with Jesus Christ's true Word is how you over come the wicked one! You have to study deep in the study of His Word seeking the wisdom of God and not the wisdom of this world.

We find that there are many, many things that we can learn, walk in that are the Truths of God. The entire Bible is the true Word of God. It would take several lifetimes, if not more than that, to fully understand the Word of God.

But God has given us and His Family an understanding of His Truth, an understanding that really allows us to walk... Not just understanding what the rest of the world does not understand. It isn't because we're smarter, it's because they have been blinded from this Truth. We have had it revealed to us.

It is about walking in the assurance—the sureness—of the Truths of God. When God says it, *it is!* If He commands it, *it stands fast!*

That is the relationship that we should have with God. With that we can weather all storms, all tribulations because we walk in faith and that faith was given to us by God the Father through His Son Jesus Christ.

I hope that is helpful, and as we continue to strive in these last times against the world and Satan and all his lies. Let's hold on to the Truths of God and never let a man or any organization try to drive a wedge between us and God's Truth.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Hosea 4:1-6
- 2) Exodus 12:48-49
- 3) Numbers 9:14
- 4) Numbers 15:13-16
- 5) James 1:12-18
- 6) Genesis 24:1-9, 15-28
- 7) Revelation 12:1-11
- 8) Genesis 3:1-11
- 9) Genesis 6:1-9
- 10) Genesis 15:1-9
- 11) Romans 4:1-3
- 12) Malachi 2:10
- 13) Romans 3:30-31, 28-30
- 14) 1 Corinthians 8:5-6
- 15) Matthew 11:25-27
- 16) 1 Peter 1:16-21
- 17) Matthew 5:48
- 18) 2 John 3
- 19) Colossians 1:12-16
- 20) John 4:23-24
- 21) John 14:6
- 22) Isaiah 30:8-13
- 23) 1 John 1:1-3
- 24) 1 John 2:14

Scripture referenced, not quoted: John 18

AJ: bo  
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