

Pilate said unto Jesus: "What is <u>TRUTH</u>"? (John 18:38) in response to Jesus' statement "... that I should bear witness to the Truth. Everyone that is of the Truth hears my voice" (John 18:37). As you recall from the John Gospel's narration, Pilate did not wait for the answer and hurried to get rid of Jesus, because he knew nothing of the Truth and could not handle the Truth, and took the easy way out by "washing his hands of the blood of this Innocent" (Matt 27:24).

We hide behind our instincts and our intellect, we cling to the visible regardless if one can understand or explain its origin, and fumble pretending to know the Truth like the agnostic (literally means ignorant), who only accepts material phenomena, and somehow admits there is "a god" or "a force" but also believes that "*The* True God" and life hereafter, heaven and hell can neither be proved or disproved; No wonder the Lord questioned us: "*If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?*" (John 3:12).

The Truth and Wisdom of God are beyond human comprehension and conception and even acceptance, otherwise how can you explain Isaiah 11:6: "The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them", but the Bible admonished us: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight" (Prov. 3:5-8).

For us to even tackle the subject of "What is Truth", we must first find what Truth <u>is not</u>. Even through the process of elimination, we might understand but not comprehend, and if we succeed to comprehend, we might not conceive or perceive the depths and the extent of the Truth, lest the Spirit of Truth reveals It to us.

One can lull himself into toying with the bridle of all vices, armed with scientific arguments and cosmic phenomena in re-assigning attributes to the Absolute Truth, but in the real pursuit of Truth, one must first acquire *Faith* and *Belief* in the Spirit of Truth through *Research* and *Inquiry* to obtain *Knowledge* and *Acumen* through a sensitive spirit to discern its *Depths*, *Credits* and *Merits*. "Even the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it sees Him not, neither knows Him: but you know Him for He dwells with you and shall be in you." (John 14:17)

Truth is One and Only but the antonyms and antithesis are numerous, and few should suffice: Fallacy, apostasy, complacency, half truth, delusion, illusion, bondage, customs & traditions.

Let us review some of the prominent prerequisites in searching for the **Truth**, which the Essence of **Knowledge** and **Meekness** of **Spirit** are Its **Subject**, and at the basis of Its **Existence** is the undisputed **Word** of **God**, the **Facts** & the **Reality**, coupled with **Nature** and **Matter** for Its **Principal**, recognized for Its **Force** through **Uniformity** and **Consistency**, prototyped after **Conformity** and **Object Lesson**, adapted through **Orthodoxy** and **Compliance**, and finally embraced by **Faith** without wavering.

With the Truth, there is freedom, there is insight, and finally there is conviction and belief. Apart from the Truth, there is no freedom, and the light at the end of the tunnel would be a supersonic train of oblivion and eternal perdition of the spirit, the soul and the body. "You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall set you free". (John 8:32).

Our bodily shell and human mind refuse to accept the Truth, and the only way that can be accomplished is by the renewing of our mind, by rejecting the old Adam and embracing the new Adam, the Truth itself, who will then liberate us from confusion, uncertainty and definite death, as Jesus confirmed to Simon Peter saying that flesh and bones did not reveal to you his proclamation of Jesus being God, but the Spirit of God (Matt 16:17). No statement can, beside the Bible, echoes this truth more than the Middle Eastern adage: God, with the naked eye, no one has seen but in the heart and spirit He is readily perceived", which is partly coined after two biblical exhortations: "God is Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth" (John 4:24) and "No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known" (John 1:18)

It is said that Jesus Christ is one of three: either he is a liar, or a lunatic, or He is whom He says. Till this day, Jews, Muslims, atheists and some Christians are still looking for the Truth, It is in their holy Books, but they refuse to see It or hear It. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing the Word of God. Jesus has said: "Sanctify them by the Truth, your Word is Truth" (John 17:17) thus, only the Word of God: Jesus, can declare: "I am The Way and The Truth and The Life" (John 14:6). If He was not The Truth, He would neither have risen from death nor be followed and be acknowledged.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His Glory, the Glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of **Grace** and **Truth**. (John 1:1,5&14)

If you have accepted the **TRUTH: Jesus**And the **Truth** dwells in you: **Father, Son, Holy Spirit**.

Be convinced as the apostle Paul did:

"Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to **separate** you from the **love** of **God** that is in **Christ Jesus OUR Lord".**(Rom. 8:38&39)

"And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; Saying: "Blessed the King that comes in the name of the Lord: peace in Heaven, and glory in the highest." And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him: "Master, rebuke your disciples." And He answered and said unto them:

"I tell you that if these should hold their peace, THE STONES WOULD IMMEDIATELY CRY OUT"

(Luke 19:37-40)