Devotion #256

**God’s Word Is Enough**

**John 17:17 (NASB)***"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.”*

Several years ago a young man came to see me to talk about why he should believe that God is real. He was a self-admitted atheist, meaning he didn’t believe there was a God. So he wanted to know why I would spend my life teaching about a God who he didn’t believe existed. As we talked, and I shared with him my belief and why I knew God was real, he became very agitated, almost argumentative. Everything I said, he wanted to refute. So it didn’t take long for me to realize that he wasn’t looking for answers. He was looking to make himself feel better about his wrong belief. And that became more apparent as he became more irritated with my answers. So I asked him what really wanted, to which he shouted, “I want to know the truth”!

Sadly, he left without being convinced. But what I learned from that meeting was that the human heart and mind, it their natural states, are very much blinded to the truth. The truth that is right before them. How do I know that? Because God said it was so. In Jesus’s prayer in John 17, He makes it abundantly clear that God’s Word, the Bible, is truth which means that no one has to search for God. He left us everything we need to know about Himself in the Bible. That’s what Jesus was affirming.

Many times people, like this young man, want something tangible, something they can see or put their hands on. That stands to reason because most things in our world need lots of evidence to be convincing. People are so skeptical about most things in life that they are hard sells on just about anything they don’t understand, and God knows that. He knows our sinful natures are not easily persuaded to believe Him. So, He did the one thing that would be most convincing - He came to earth to prove His reality and to pay the debt of our sins. If you remember in John’s first chapter, Jesus is clearly identified as the Word of God. Listen to how John describes Jesus. **John 1:1-4 (NASB)** *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men*.” Now jump to verse fourteen, **John 1:14 (NASB)** *“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth*.”

John clearly personifies the Word of God because the Word of God is a person, Jesus. That may sound strange but the truth is, Jesus is the physical manifestation of God’s Holy Word. And Jesus affirmed that truth when he stood before Pilate just before He was to be crucified. Listen to the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. **John 18:37 (NASB)** *“Therefore Pilate said to Him, ‘So You are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice*.’" In that moment, the Lord Jesus clearly pointed to Himself as the truth. The very manifestation of all truth. Look back to verse fourteen of John chapter 1. John says of Jesus, “*We saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth*”. Do you see it? Jesus is full of truth - not full as like a bucket is full of water but that He is the very embodiment of truth. And He came to bear witness to all people who will trust Him that He is all the truth they need.

Beloved, you don’t need to have a vision or a dream or someone to tell you that Jesus is real or God is real. You don’t need to read a book about someone’s experience about death and heaven. God gave us the truth, His name is Jesus, and He lives in His Word because He is the Word of God who came in the flesh. The Bible is the only source you need to believe. It tells us everything about God and salvation and how to live peacefully and joyfully in this life and how to be with Him eternally. Don’t get lost in trying to find God in other ways. The Bible is His Holy Word - in it you will find all you need to know Him.