Devotion #282

**Credible Evidence**

**John 18:37 (NASB)** *“I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."*

Many years ago I walked into my first philosophy class. I was somewhat uncertain to take the class because it seemed too ethereal, but after the first class, I was greatly surprised. It was one of those once-per-week classes that lasted three hours, but in those first three hours I learned something that has stuck with me ever since. This may not sound like an interesting subject for you, but for me it was fascinating. We talked for three hours about why we believed the color of the carpet in that room was blue. That’s right. For three hours. What came out of that discussion was the awareness that the reason we all agreed that the color of the carpet was blue was not because we had all taken samples of the fibers and inspected them under a microscope or because we did chemical tests to the them, but because we all had someone in our lives who we respected who told us the carpet was blue. This is the way all things are that we believe to be true. We believe what we believe because someone who told us about that particular subject was deemed, by us, to be credible, therefore we trusted what they said.

This also holds true to truth about God. Many, many people will not accept God as real. Instead they believe Him to be in the imagination of people or to be something weak people put their hope in because they can’t handle life on their own. The Lord knew people would be that way. Sin does that. So He came. He came to show us He is real and that everything the Scriptures say about Him is real and that He can be trusted as God come-in-the-flesh.When Jesus stood in front of Pilate, the world was worshipping so many gods that one more just added to the total. He was just another god. When the world is overwhelmed with too many concepts of truth or ideas about what is true, people get more confused than they are helped. Kind of like what is happening today over COVID. There have been so many people saying things about the virus, it is hard to know what to believe until someone tells the truth and can support the truth with fact. Pilate was caught up in the confusion of what truth was in his day because there was a lot of talk about gods but no evidence in his mind of the true god. That was until Jesus came and stood before him. On that day, the very embodiment of truth was literally in his presence, which is what Jesus said - that He was on earth to give credible evidence of the truth - which He did.

All of His miracles and teachings gave proof of who He is. This was evidence that people needed. They couldn’t deny the works that He did. Many of the religious leaders said they wouldn’t believe out of the stubbornness of their hearts, but they couldn’t deny the facts of what they saw. And - for that - they had to get rid of Him.Jesus came to set people free with the truth of salvation, but because the religious leaders wanted power and control, they had to do something with Jesus or else they would lose their following. So they lied and contrived a scheme to kill Him - which they did. But what they didn’t know was that the truth always wins. The truth always comes out. Why? Because Jesus is Lord of the truth. He is the very manifestation of the truth, which is why He said, **John 14:6 (NASB)** "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me*.” It was for the purpose of rescuing people for eternity that the Lord came and why He was willing to give Himself, so people could be free forever from the bondage of sin. Many who have heard the truth from Him separated themselves from the ideologies of the world and followed Him, even to their own deaths, simply because they knew He spoke truth and was the truth.

Our world needs truth. It needs credible evidence that God is the One who can and will rescue them. That is why we have the Bible. It is filled with story after story of credible evidence pointing to the reality of our Lord and Savior. It is our job to tell that truth, even if it is unpopular and even if it costs us our lives.