

Against All the gods of Egypt (of the World) pt 10

“The Crowning of the Truth!”

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“And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, 9 When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent. 10 And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. 11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. 12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. 13 And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.” Exodus 7:8-13

We return this morning to our series “Against all the gods of Egypt.” this will be our 10th message in our series on the 10 Plagues. We have been considering verses 8 - 13 and this is our outline:

- I. **The Commission of the Truth:**
- II. **The Confirmation of the Truth:**
- III. **The Counterfeit of the Truth:**
- IV. **The Crowning of the Truth:**
- V. **The Condemnation of the Truth:**
- VI. **The Conquering of the Truth:**

We have considered the first 3 points and so this morning we shall begin at point # 4:

IV. The Crowning of the Truth:

By The Crowning of the Truth, we mean, The Triumph of the Truth or the Victory resulting in or because of the Truth. We see this in our immediate text in verses 10-12, “*And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. 11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. 12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: **but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.**” Aaron’s rod swallowed up all the magicians’ rods. We don’t know how many there were, but I’m sure there were more than just a hand full. The SWALLOWING UP of all the rods of the magicians signified triumph and victory, yea the essence of truth conquering that which is false and error, thus The Crowning of the TRUTH! This morning’s sermon will be more on the subject and nature of the truth and veracity of God and then Lord willing next week we will make application to our text. I felt the need to speak on the subject of the TRUTH of God this morning. Now, Aaron’s rod*

which stood for truth conquered, yea swallowed up error and falseness. We too also have in our hands this morning a powerful book which is founded and base upon truth, and this book the Bible will swallow up any and all philosophical secular humanistic ideologies. As Pharaoh's magicians threw down their rods to somehow seek to equate or be on the same level as Aaron's rod, in like manner in our day the ideology of secular humanism seeks to be on the same level and or above to what the Word of God teaches. The reason for this is because in the eyes of man, truth is but a relative term, because they don't believe in absolutes as Pharaoh and his magicians didn't and thought that they had some inherent power within themselves to be equal with God. But they found out real fast that there is only ONE TRUTH and that TRUTH is found only in the TRUE GOD! But man never learns this truth! What man does not understand is that truth is liberating to the soul of man.

However even among some churches, truth does not have the preeminence in its services. The churches of our day are more interested in pragmatism than in the TRUTH of the Living God. No doubt that the church of our generation is very pragmatic. The churches of our day have become all things to all men so that they might by any means increase their membership and fatten their bank accounts. The sad thing about the churches of our generations is that the houses of worship have become a theater of drama and a theater of entertainment. The churches of our day have become a family life center with a new or featured attraction every other week or so. The churches of our generation are very religious and have been so brainwashed, both in the pulpit and the pew into believing that bigger is better and that God's blessings are measured by the size and number of those attending their services. This 21st century church has therefore willfully surrendered the truth of God and has exchanged it for a lie. The building may be filled with capacity with immortal souls, not knowing that one day they will face the same God Pharaoh met.

We must never forget that the church of God is a God-ordained institution existing for the purpose of glorifying God. It is manifested and formulated in a local visible assembly of baptized believers, which are gathered and united by the Word of God for the propagation and proclamation of the gospel and for the edification of its membership. The sad thing is that we live in an era of professing Christendom that is ignorant concerning the importance of the doctrine of ecclesiology, or the doctrine of the church. Therefore, there is no conviction that the local visible church is the "Pillar and Ground of the TRUTH." Consequently, it opens the flood gates to the modern religious world which is knee deep, yea; neck deep in humanistic theology that is man-centered instead of being God-centered! Hence, these organizations, that is, these so-called churches are exalted out of all due structure in disrespect and disdain to Biblical Divine TRUTH and are carried about with divers and strange doctrines! May God grace us to never be numbered among this group, but that we would have a love and conviction for the Truth of the most High God!

The Bible says that it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace and oh to God likewise that the heart be established with TRUTH also! Oh my dear ones by God's grace I want that the banner of TRUTH to fly over Hillburn Drive Grace Baptist Church.

Psalms 60:4, “*Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.*” Oh my dear ones as Jehu asked Jehonadab in 2 Kings 10:15, “*...Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart...*” In other words, is your heart like my heart in regards to the importance of the TRUTH of God that must have the preeminence in the Church of God?

Let me interject that there is nothing more liberating than the truth as our Lord Jesus Christ clearly and succinctly has put it: “*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” John 8:32. Without getting into all the philosophical explanations of truth, let me get right down to it, Truth is GOD, that is, when the question is asked; what is truth, the answer is GOD, God is truth and of course truth was personified in the person of Christ and this is what He said in John 14:6, “*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” Jesus Christ said, I AM the TRUTH!

The problem of man is the same problem of Pharaoh and the same problem Pilate had, if you recall in the gospel of John, Jesus Christ stood in front of Pilate and Pilate had the audacity to ask the question; what is truth? Truth is standing in front of him and he asks, what is truth?

Now, I know that a message like mine this morning will be received by the world with scorn, derision, ridicule, mockery and no doubt laughter. If you don't believe me, ask this question, what is truth at your workplace, at school, at college, ask this question to your family members or anyone and I'm very sure that it will create an interesting conversation to which you will be mocked and rejected if you say and or agree with me this morning as to what truth is which is God.

Pilate asked as we would say, the million dollar question, what is truth, but his question was cemented in cynicism because this was a mocking response to what our Lord Jesus Christ had just declared in John 18:36-38, please turn there, “*Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. 37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. **To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.** 38 (Pilate answers cynically, that is mockingly) *Pilate saith unto him, (Probably with his nose in the air) What is truth? (Jesus declared unto to Pilate that He was born and came into the world to bear witness of the TRUTH!) And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.*” Pilate's answering cynically in a question to the sayings of Jesus is no different than Pharaoh's answer to Moses' first meeting when Pharaoh said in Ex.5:1&2, “*And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. 2 And Pharaoh said, **Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.**” Times and actions have not change for the better regarding the aspect of TRUTH; for 2000 years later from Pilate's answer to Christ shows that the whole world continues to breathe in the cynicism of both Pharaoh and Pilate, because to the masses TRUTH is but a mere relative point as John MacArthur rightly points out, “*Some say***

truth is a power play, a metanarrative constructed by the elite for the purpose of controlling the ignorant masses. To some, truth is subjective, the individual world of preference and opinion. Others believe truth is a collective judgment, the product of cultural consensus, and still others flatly deny the concept of truth altogether.”

We must be clear as to what truth is? Truth is the expression of who God is and therefore truth is in harmony with the essence of who God is and as John MacArthur says, “*Because the definition of truth flows from God, truth is theological.*” Then we confess that God and God alone is the author and source of truth, He is the establisher and determiner of truth and He is regulator, standard and the final judge of all truth. Paul makes it very clear in Romans 3:4, “*...let God be true, but every man a liar...*” The problem lies within the heart of man, like Pharaoh and Pilate when truth is presented, because of pride and an obstinate heart they reject and refuse to bow down and acknowledge that God is truth and that the word of God expresses that truth and therefore as Paul writes man continues to suppress the truth of God, Romans 1:18, “*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.*” Satan deceives man in convincing them to exchange the truth for a lie. Romans 1:25, “*Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*” Reminds of the Words of Christ to the Jews regarding Satan in John 8:44 & 45, “*Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. 45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.*” Yes, Satan continues to deceive man in convincing them to exchange the truth for a lie.

God is truth and the Bible is the Word of God and the Bible is the expression of what truth is for Christ said in John 17:17, “*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*” Christ clearly sets forth, that He was the truth and that the Word of God is the truth, therefore man is without excuse for not knowing the truth, it is before you in the Bible you hold in your hands. God is truth, God is the truth; I’m not interested in presenting an ontological, cosmological and or teleological argument, at another time I can speak on these terms under the topic of theology proper and discuss them, but for now, I’m considering it theologically and that the Bible teaches that the Living and True God is a God of truth and that He is without iniquity, therefore just and right is HE!

Deut.32:4, “*He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: **a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.**” Numbers 23:19 says, “*God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?*” Psalms 33:4, “*For the word of the LORD is right; and **all his works are done in truth.** What a blessing that the truth of God endures all generations.” Psalms 100:5, “*For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and **his truth endureth to all generations.**” Thus, we can be encouraged to know that the TRUTH of God continues in this generation, but the problem is that because man has no interest in the truth of God Isaiah 59:14 tells us that truth is fallen in the street, “*And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for****

truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.” What a true description of America. Why? Isaiah answers that question in the same chapter 59 at verse 4, “***None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.***” When a person or a nation rejects the truth of God and trust in vanity and lies it always brings forth iniquity and sin. Thus, the words of Jeremiah rings loudly in our ears, Jeremiah 7:28, “*But thou shalt say unto them, This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the LORD their God, nor receiveth correction: **truth is perished**, and is cut off from their mouth.*” The saddest thing is when truth is perished from a church and is therefore cut off from their mouth. Jeremiah 9:3 add to the misery, “*And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: **but they are not valiant for the truth** upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD.*” Oh to God that pastors and preachers would be valiant for truth. They are more concerns for the numbers and not for truth, they are more valiant for programs and entertainment than the truth of God and the end result is that they proceed from evil to evil and they know not God. The last part of verse 5 in Jeremiah 9 says, “*...and will not speak the truth: they have taught their tongue to speak lies, and weary themselves to commit*

Oh my dear ones this morning, I hope and pray that you have a love for the TRUTH and be not found among those who are not valiant for the TRUTH!

Now by the truth in regarding God we also mean the veracity of God. The veracity of God is His absolute conformity to TRUTH. This is why we can trust and believe God regarding everything He says in the Bible, in God there is no darkness or deception, in God there is nothing but the truth! Therefore God is trustworthy because He is the essence of TRUTH! As one writer says, “*Truth is but a stamp of affirmation from God’s eternal character.*” God is perfect and the absolute truth, He is the only source of absolute truth in the universe. There never was a time and there shall never be a time where God has not been and will not be perfect absolute! The veracity of God is part of His all-encompassing knowledge and power and these qualities are essential to the God-head, but our knowledge about God is without understanding until we are saved and grow in the grace and knowledge of God. God’s veracity gives certainty and confidence to our faith because our faith rests on the testimony of God and because God is the source of all truth, we rest again on the faithful and true sayings of His Word. Ps.19:7-9, “*The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.*” Ps.25:2-5 & 10, “*O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. 3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause. 4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. 5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.*” “*10 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.*”

God is all He says He is and therefore the Bible is completely reliable and dependable without any kind of falseness or deception. I love the words of the Apostle to the

Thessalonians in 1st. Thess.2:13, *“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, **but as it is in truth, the word of God**, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”*

We shall see in the weeks to come in the 10 plagues that God is not imaginary, vain or empty like the idols of Pharaoh and the Egyptians as they were worshipping gods of their own imagination. The aspect of God’s unchanging truthfulness is that we can stand on the promises and truth of God’s Word in full assurance of faith regardless how we feel and no matter how dire our circumstances because we can trust and rest upon the veracity of God forever and forever! Because of God’s veracity we also see the faithfulness of God, we see this in the perfection of God being absolute. If God was not a God of truth He would not be faithful and trustworthy, but I’m so glad that He is a God of TRUTH! It’s because of His truth and or veracity that we ascribe to Him faithfulness and what a blessing to know that His faithfulness and compassions are renew to us each and every day as we read in Lamentation 3:22 & 23, *“It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”* His compassions fail not because of His veracity, we can depend on it every morning when we wake up and we can say and sing, *“He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: **a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.**”*

What Pharaoh and his magicians did not know was that this was the God with whom they were fighting against is the ONLY TRUE and LIVING GOD! This is why God said that Pharaoh and the Egyptians would give Him HONOR, to which every living soul one day will also give God HONOR! Exodus 7:5, *“And the Egyptians **shall know that I am the LORD**, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.”* Exodus 14:17 & 18, *“And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and **I will get me honour upon Pharaoh**, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. 18 And **the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh**, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.”* God’s veracity and truth is consistent with all His other perfect and absolute attributes. Whether it be His power, His Justice or His Judgment and Pharaoh was about to find that out.

Again, every living soul will give honor to God, willfully or by judgment as Philipians clearly states in Phil.2:9-11, *“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

Oh my dear ones we must never lose sight on the importance of truth, you see truth is vital, it is vital to true Biblical Christianity, it is vital for the salvation of sinners and it is vital for the sustaining of His Church. Truth is what triumph over Pharaoh and the magicians and it the truth of God that triumphs in this 21st century.

Truth is eternal as God is eternal. You see what is truth today was always truth with God in His eternal mind for the Word of God says, “*Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.*” Acts 15:18. In Psalm 119:160 it says, “*Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.*” What we forget sometimes is that, what is true today with us might not have been true yesterday and might not be true tomorrow, why? Because things are always in succession with us, what was iPhone 4 yesterday became iPhone 5 which is now iPhone 6. But with God whose mind is eternal all things stand in one view and therefore His truth is and will be to all generations as we have seen in Ps.100:5 and “*For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.*” Ps.117:1 & 2, “*O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. 2 For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.*”

What a blessing and joy to know that the TRUTH of God endures to all generations and better yet it endures forever! The TRUTH of God is immutable and inflexible as God Himself, to us truth can vary, but in God it is always the same. God is true in all His works and all His works are done in TRUTH. God’s work of providence governs the world and all things are disposed according to truth and righteousness even as those things done by the hands of Moses and Aaron. Those deeds done by the magicians were only for show, for their serpents were quickly swallowed up by Aaron’s Rod to clearly demonstrate that it was the finger of God to which the magicians would confessed later on and were without excuse regarding the essence of truth that flows from God.

In like manner everyone this morning is also without excuse before God, you are responsible for all the truth you have heard. Though, I did not get to my text, nonetheless, I wanted to make sure we all understand the importance of truth, that is, your salvation is contingent on the truth of God and may God be pleased to open your eyes to His truth and that Jesus Christ is the embodiment of truth and that as truth PERSONIFIED, He and HE alone is the TRUE Savior of man, Jesus Christ is the CROWN TRUTH!

How we respond to the truth of God has eternal consequences. How we respond to truth God has revealed in His Word has eternal significance. To reject truth that has been revealed to you is but rebelling against the truth of God which is but folly and ends in judgment in the never-ending wrath of God, but to accept and submit the truth of God is to find life everlasting. So what will you do with the truth of God this morning? Will you continue to make excuses for not coming to Christ, I can assure you that the same power that swallowed the magician’s serpents is the same power that will swallow up your excuses and leave you undone.

As we conclude this morning let us go to John 3 as our Lord is speaking to Nicodemus on the importance of being born again: John 3:16-21; John 18:37, “*To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.*” May the truth of God arrest your soul that you would come to the

light and see the glorious truth of God in His beloved Son Jesus Christ: I implore you this morning come in repentance toward God in faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ! Let's pray: