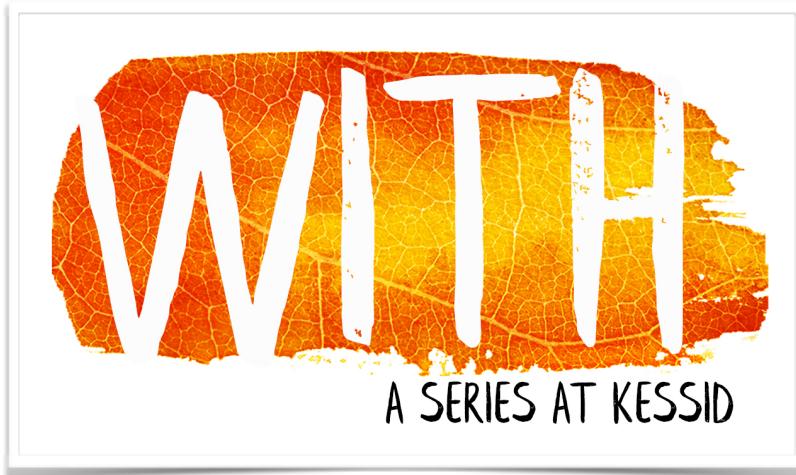


# KESSID SERMON NOTES



Sermon  
“*WITH Truth*”

Date  
11-19-17

Speaker  
*Pastor Danny Clinton*

## **Question: What is Truth?**

- In a postmodern world that denies that truth can even be known, this question is more important than ever to answer.

**Def: The Greek word for “truth” is *aletheia*, which literally means to “un-hide” or “hiding nothing.”**

- It conveys the thought that truth is always there, always open and available for all to see, with nothing being hidden or obscured.

**Def: The Hebrew word for “truth” is *emeth*, which means “firmness,” “constancy,” and “duration.”**

- Such a definition implies an everlasting substance and something that can be relied upon.
- As one Philosopher put it, from a philosophical perspective, there are three simple ways to define truth:
  1. Truth is that which corresponds to reality.
  2. Truth is that which matches its object.
  3. Truth is simply telling it like it is.

## **In defining truth, it is often helpful to note what truth is not:**

- Truth is not simply whatever works. - This is the philosophy of pragmatism – an ends-vs.-means-type approach. In reality, lies can appear to “work,” but they are still lies and not the truth.
- Truth is not what makes people feel good. - Unfortunately, bad news can be true.
- Truth is not what the majority says is true. - Fifty-one percent of a group can reach a wrong conclusion.
- Truth is not what is comprehensive. - A lengthy, detailed presentation can still result in a false conclusion.
- Truth is not defined by what is intended. - Good intentions can still be wrong.
- Truth is not how we know; truth is what we know.
- Truth is not simply what is believed. - A lie believed is still a lie.

## **Why is understanding what Truth is so Important?**

- Simply put, because... "Life has consequences for being both wrong and right!"

(Vs) Romans 1:18 - "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness."

(Vs) Romans 2:6-8 - "...who will render to each person according to his deeds; to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation."

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**Illustration:** "There's a story about an old man who lived in Paris who had a young man from the country come see him. Wanting to show the young man the magnificence of Paris, he took him to the Louvre to see the great art, and then to a concert at a majestic symphony hall to hear a great symphony orchestra play. At the end of the day, the young man from the country commented that he didn't particularly like either the art or the music. To which the old man replied, 'They aren't on trial, you are.'"

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- The idea here is that just because the young man couldn't appreciate the beauty of what he was witnessing, didn't make what he was seeing less significant...

**"Truth is important, not just because it's something you're searching for...but because it's something your're being measured against."**

## **Truth is Christ**

(Vs) John 14:6,7 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **7** If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him."

- **This Means:** Knowing the Truth (Jesus) will set one free to have Life - Life, free from sin, free from condemnation, and free from death. (Vs) John 8:31-34 - So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him..."
- Being a slave to sin is the ultimate bondage
- The freedom Jesus offers is a *spiritual* freedom from the bondage of sin—that is, release from the lifestyle of habitual lawlessness...
- Then He closes with an analogy: (Vs) John 8:35,36 - "The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

**Almost two thousand years ago, this Truth was put on trial and judged by people who were devoted to Lies...**

- In fact, all for our sake, Truth faced six trials in less than one full day, three of which were religious, and three that were legal.
- After being arrested, the Truth was first led to a man named Annas, a corrupt former high priest of the Jews.

- Annas broke numerous Jewish laws during the trial, including holding the trial in his house, trying to induce self-accusations against the defendant, and striking the defendant, who had been convicted of nothing at the time.
- After Annas, the Truth was led to the reigning high priest, Caiaphas, who happened to be Annas's son-in-law.
- Before Caiaphas and the Jewish Sanhedrin, many false witnesses came forward to speak against the Truth, yet nothing could be proved and no evidence of wrongdoing could be found.
- When morning came, the third trial of the Truth took place, with the result that the Jewish Sanhedrin pronounced the Truth should die.
- However, the Jewish council had no legal right to carry out the death penalty, so they were forced to bring the Truth to the Roman governor at the time, a man named Pontius Pilate.

### **As the Truth stood before Pilate, more lies were brought against Him...**

- His enemies said, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a King" (Vs) Luke 23:2. - This was a lie...After this, a very interesting conversation between the Truth and Pilate took place...

(Vs) John 18:33-38 - "Therefore Pilate entered again into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus and said to Him, 'Are You the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Are you saying this on your own initiative, or did others tell you about Me?' Pilate answered, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered You to me; what have You done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.' 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.' Pilate said to Him, 'What is truth?'"

**Note:** The stark reality is that Pilate was looking directly at the Origin of all Truth on that early morning over two thousand years ago...

- Pilate and the Jewish leaders refused to see the Living Truth in front of them...
- They thought they were judging Christ, when, in reality, they were the ones being judged.

**Question for You:** Did you think you were here to evaluate whether Jesus is the Truth He proclaims to be?

- Have you considered that perhaps at this very moment you are the one being evaluated?...

### **Can you be truthful about your own need for freedom?**

(Vs) 1 Peter 2:16 - "Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God."

- When you are truthful about your need for freedom, you can embrace Truth Himself, which is Jesus, and your soul can be restored!