FORTIFY - With His Truth

June 6-7, 2020

"It will always be a subject of humiliating reflection to me, that I was once an active instrument in a business at which my heart now shudders" – *John Newton*

John 8:31-32 (NIV) – To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free".

Proverbs 18:10 (NIV) – "The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe".

Proverbs 18:11-12 (NIV) – "The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it a wall too high to scale. Before a downfall the heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor".

"The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world that he doesn't exist" – *Charles Baudelaire*

1 John 4:4-6 (NIV) – "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood".

John 14:5-6 (NIV) - Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way"? Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me".

"truth" = Greek *alethes* - "true, true in fact, worthy of credit, attested, or unconcealed"

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV) – "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart".

Romans 1:18-20 (NIV) - "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities

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– his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse".

Romans 1:24-25 (NIV) – "Therefore, God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is forever praised. Amen".

"lie" = Greek *pseudos* – "deception, falsehood, untruth"; we get the English "pseudonym"

Genesis 3:5-6 (NIV) – "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil". When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Isaiah 40:6-8 (NIV) – A voice says, "Cry out". And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely, the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever".