

TRUTH WILL ALWAYS COST YOU SOMETHING

“9 In fact, I myself was convinced that it was necessary to do many things in opposition to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 I actually did this in Jerusalem, and I locked up many of the saints in prison, since I had received authority for that from the chief priests. When they were put to death, I was in agreement against them.”

Acts 24:9-10

“12 I was traveling to Damascus under these circumstances with authority and a commission from the chief priests. 13 King Agrippa, while on the road at midday, I saw a light from heaven brighter than the sun, shining around me and those traveling with me. 14 We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice speaking to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’

15 “I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’

“And the Lord replied, ‘I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. 16 But get up and stand on your feet. For I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. 17 I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them 18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a share among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’

19 “So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. 20 Instead, I preached to those in Damascus first, and to those in Jerusalem and in all the region of Judea, and to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works worthy of repentance.”

Acts 24:12-20

*“27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you believe.”
28 Agrippa said to Paul, “Are you going to persuade me to become a Christian so easily?”
29 “I wish before God,” replied Paul, “that whether easily or with difficulty, not only you but all who listen to me today might become as I am—except for these chains.”*

Acts 24:27-29

1. There is such a thing as absolute truth.

“9 In fact, I myself was convinced that it was necessary to do many things in opposition to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.”

Acts 26:9

It's possible to be convinced of a lie parading itself around as the truth.

*"12 There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death."
Proverbs 14:12*

Conviction is not the same thing as truth.

*"21 Woe to those who consider themselves wise and judge themselves clever."
Isaiah 5:21*

Has the truth you have found for your life been prescribed by God's Word or manifested out of personal preference?

2. Truth prefers to disregard your comfortability.

"I didn't go to religion to make me happy. I always knew a bottle of port would do that. If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don't recommend Christianity." -C.S. Lewis

*"17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."
John 17:17*

*"19 So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. 20 Instead, I preached to those in Damascus first, and to those in Jerusalem and in all the region of Judea, and to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works worthy of repentance. 21 For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and were trying to kill me."
Acts 24:19-21*

Obedience is the cost to live in the truth

To be obedient is to deny yourself

The enemy's play becomes God's positioning

God called you to preach the Gospel with your life not to feed off it 'till death

What are you going to do with the truth you are in possession of?

You cannot afford to do nothing

*"24 The king answered Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it from you for a price, for I will not offer to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for twenty ounces of silver. 25 He built an altar to the Lord there and offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the Lord was receptive to prayer for the land, and the plague on Israel ended."
2 Samuel 24:24-25*

Difficulty should not be a reason to shrink back. It should be the reason we keep moving forward

“If your god never disagrees with you, you might just be worshiping an idealized version of yourself.” - Tim Keller

The Gospel may be free but there is nothing easy about it

“33 I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.”

John 16:33

Count the cost. Welcome the suffering. Walk in His Grace.

“15 Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”

Hebrews 3:15

