



REVISITED

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

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Lesson 10

VERSE FOR THE JOURNEY

- ✘ **Romans 1:21-25** For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and **exchanged** the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they **exchanged** the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
- ✘ Exchanged: *allasso*: to alter, to substitute one thing for another

TRUTH IS EVOLVING

- ✘ Ask me if Christianity (any version of it, yours, the Pope's, whoever's) is orthodox, meaning true, and here's my honest answer: a little but not yet. Brian McLaren
- ✘ Communities have souls, not just people....The modern era downplayed a biblical doctrine of salvation that had this communal dimension. In contrast, the New Light movement is concerned about the salvation ensouled communities as well as individual souls and the salvation of community souls relating synergistically to one another...Len Sweet : Quantum Spirituality
- ✘ Emergent doesn't have a position on absolute truth, or on anything for that matter. Do you show up at a dinner party with your neighbors and ask, "what's this dinner party's position on absolute truth?" No you don't because it's a nonsensical question. Tony Jones

THE TRUTH ABOUT TRUTH

- ✘ When you dismiss the authority and inerrancy of the Bible, you are in trouble
- ✘ The longer you persist in this state, the more out of touch you become: Professing to be wise, they became fools...
- ✘ When you reject one biblical truth, you have discounted all of the Bible; the Bible can't be divided into what is true and what is not
- ✘ People who are not in relationship with Jesus make glaring errors in biblical interpretation
- ✘ **John 16:13** "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."

GOD'S WORD

- × **Psalm 119:160** The sum of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.
- × **John 17:17** Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth
- × **2 Timothy 3:16-17** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- × It is important to know how to study God's Word not to imposing our own particular predispositions
- × **Ephesians 1:13-14** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

THE PERSON OF TRUTH

- × **John 14:1-6** "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also. And you know the way where I am going." Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way? Jesus said to him, "**I am the way**, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.
- × **John 1:16-17** For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

- × **John 14:16-17** "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.
- × **1 John 5:6-9** This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son.

PILLAR/FOUNDATION

- × **1 Timothy 3:14-16** I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; but in case I am delayed, *I write* so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the **church** of the living God, the **pillar and support** of the truth. By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, was vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.
- × Support: *hedraioma*: the grounding, foundation
- × The church must know and teach what is true in order to be foundational for others; when a church teaches in error, people are deceived

HOW DECEPTION WORKS

- ✘ **John 8:23-26** And He was saying to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins. So they were saying to Him, "Who are You?" Jesus said to them, "What have I been saying to you *from* the beginning? I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world."
- ✘ **John 8:30-32** As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him. So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

DISCIPLES

- ✘ Disciple: *mathetes*: a learner; often follows a particular teacher
- ✘ A disciple is freed by gaining knowledge of the truth
- ✘ ARGUMENT 1: We are biological descendants of Abraham
Response: you lack Abraham's belief structure
- ✘ ARGUMENT 2: They are God's children
Response: if God is your father, you would love me
- ✘ Jesus' response: there are two teams; you're on the one
- ✘ **John 8:43-44** "Why do you not understand what I am saying? *It is* because you cannot hear My word. You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

PILATE'S QUESTION

- × **John 18:37-38** 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?"
- × **1 John 1:5-7** This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

DILIGENCE REQUIRED

- × **2 Timothy 2:14-16** Remind *them* of these things, and solemnly charge in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless *and leads* to the ruin of the hearers. Be *diligent* to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth. But avoid worldly *and* empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness
- × Diligence: *spoudazo*: to put forward effort (speed)
- × Accurately: *orthomoteo*: to cut straight, rightly divide
- × **1 Timothy 6:20-21** Timothy, guard (phulasso) what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly *and* empty chatter *and* the opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge"— which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you.