

**January 8, 2021 (Men Sharpen Men)**

**How important is The Truth to You? Have you ever sold it?**

In December our study was about the Evil Day or the day of afflictions. It was stated in **Eccl 9:12 Surely, no one knows his appointed time! Like fish that are caught in a deadly net, and like birds that are caught in a snare - just like them, all people are ensnared at an (evil) unfortunate time that falls upon them suddenly.** When wrestling with the powers of darkness and thoughts, imaginations and reasonings against the knowledge of God, we are to clothe our minds and hearts with the amour of God (Ephesians 6: 13-18). Of this Armor we will look at the first protection, “ Truth”.

Unfortunate times come upon us suddenly and many attempt to find out why. This is when thoughts, imaginations and reasonings against the knowledge of God come to mind (2cor. 10:4,5) and many have bought (accepted) them. When they are against the knowledge of God, His Word in their place they are not in truth. Therefore people are not set free from the affliction they acquired unintentionally. When this occur the devil, Satan, the powers of darkness still has an influence and the person(s) are not free from that spiritual or mental affliction. Remember submit yourselves to God, (the truth), resist the devil and he will flee (James 4:7); He cannot prevail against you (Mat.16:18); God will not let him (1 Cor.10:13)

What is Truth? This is the question Pilate asked the Lord Jesus (Jn. 18:38) as the truth (Jesus) was right before his eyes.

Truth (Greek –Alethes) Unconcealed manifest. The reality of a thing.

Aletheia – The reality lying at the basis of an appearance; the displayed real essence (the heart, the core) of a matter.

Alethinous- Real, genuine, ideal, (honest, sincere, candid)

Gnesios- True (fact, correct, right) honest, heartfelt, truthful)

Questions

- Have you ever acquired (believe, accepted, got acquainted with) the truth and then sold it during an unfortunate time for something that appealed to your selfish desire? If so what was it? and how did you feel after you obtained it?
- How can you buy back the truth and be free? 1Jn. 1:9; 2Tim.2:23-26
- Have you ever sold the truth and bought it back? If so how did you feel?

It is written;

**Prov 23:23 (KJV) Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.**

**John 8:31-32 (KJV) 31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

**John 14:6 (KJV) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

We see an instance of the devil's scheme and how Eve bought into it or stated differently how she exchanged the truth for a lie by not submitting to God / His Word/ the Truth. The devil left on his own after he accomplished his purpose for Eve to doubt and disbelieve God's commandment (The Truth, His Word). Satan deceived Eve to enter into her own fleshly desire to be like God.(Mat. 16:23). This brought her into sin.

**Gen 3:1-6 (KJV)**

**1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.**

How did Eve sell the truth and what did she exchange the truth for?

For those who want to look further at selling or exchanging the truth for a lie and seeing the results read Romans 1:18-32.