**Lesson 8: The Truth of God**

Psalm 25:5

5 Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.

The veracity, or truthfulness, of God is well attested in Scripture. His knowledge and words are true because He is truth. Wayne Grudem writes, “God’s truthfulness means that he is the true God, and that all his knowledge and words are both true and the final standard of truth.”[[1]](#footnote-2) Grudem explains that God is the one true God (unlike the idols of man) who perfectly conforms to God’s notion of what God should be. It is not essential that God should conform to our notions of what a perfect God should be since we are God’s creatures and therefore limited and finite (not to mention sinners). This is the principle of Jeremiah 10:10, that our God is the true and living God and the everlasting King. The gods of this world fall utterly short of the greatness and glory of God. In this sense, He is the incomparable God (Isa. 45:5).

The truthfulness of God also means that God’s knowledge is true. Job 37:16 states that God is “perfect in knowledge.” Indeed, His actions are in accordance with His perfect knowledge so that all that He does is according to truth. To think truthfully about anything is to get our minds in conformity with God’s and to act truthfully is to act in accordance with God’s knowledge. God is our standard of truth. He knows and understands reality perfectly. Because He is omniscient, He knows all things infinitely and perfectly well.

Because God is truth, His words are truth (cf. 2 Sam. 7:28; 22:31; Prov. 30:5). Jesus prayed, “Sanctify them in the truth; Your Word is truth” (John 17:17). God’s Word is always true because by nature He is a God who cannot lie (Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18). God will also be faithful to His Word and will never break His promises (Num. 23:19; Rom. 3:3-4). He can be completely relied upon because He cannot deny His own nature by being unfaithful (2 Tim. 2:13).

*Questions for Discussion*

1. Read Isaiah 46. In what ways does this passage support the idea of God’s veracity? How does the Lord contrast Himself from the gods of Babylon?

2. Some object to the doctrine of the veracity of God because it is a circular argument (i.e., God is the true God because He conforms to His own notion of all that God should be).

a. How might you respond to this objection?

b. How is God’s claim to be the true God different than any other god’s claim to be true?

3. Why is it significant that the Lord’s Word can be trusted?

4. In application, what is the relationship between your salvation and speaking the truth (Col. 3:9-10)?

5. From the following passages, what is God’s attitude towards lying?

a. Proverbs 4:24.

b. Proverbs 12:22.

c. John 8:44.

**Standing on the Promises of God**

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,

Thro’ eternal ages let His praises ring;

Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,

Standing on the promises of God.

*Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;*

*Standing, standing, I’m standing on the promises of God.*

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,

When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,

By the living Word of God I shall prevail,

Standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,

Bound to Him eternally by love’s strong cord,

Overcoming daily with the Spirit’s sword,

Standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,

List’ning every moment to the Spirit’s call,

Resting in my Savior as my all in all,

Standing on the promises of God.

*Thoughts for Application*

1. How should a better understanding of the truthfulness of God affect your Scripture reading? Your prayer life? Your evangelism?

2. In what ways are people today careless about telling the truth? Why do you think people are careless with the truth?

3. How does our lying dishonor the Lord? Is there such a thing as a “white lie”?

4. How can you seek to be a better truth teller? Consider the following examples:

a. Promising to pray for someone.

b. Being at a place at the time you say you will.

c. Exaggerating details to a story to make it more exciting.

d. Fairly representing an opponent or an opponent’s view in a conflict.

5. In what ways do you need to ask the Lord to forgive you for not telling the truth?

1. Grudem, 195. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)