

- Greetings in the precious name of Jesus the Christ,

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 23:23 (TM)

“Buy truth - don't sell it for love or money; buy wisdom, buy education, buy insight.”

STORY:

Henry Augustus Rowland, professor of physics at Johns Hopkins University, was once called as an expert witness at a trial. During cross-examination a lawyer demanded, "What are your qualifications as an expert witness in this case?"

The normally modest and retiring professor replied quietly, "I am the greatest living expert on the subject under discussion." Later a friend well acquainted with Rowland's disposition expressed surprise at the professor's uncharacteristic answer. Rowland answered, "Well, what did you expect me to do? I was under oath."

OBSERVATION

If we were under oath how would we respond? If we were on trial for being a Christian would there be enough evidence to convict us? If every detail of our life – every thought, every word, every action - was known by our friends or the people at work or the people at church, would they still want to associate with us?

Maybe the line from, *“A Few Good Men”*, is correct for most if not all of us – “You cannot handle the truth!” And we can't! Life is not a cosmic game of Truth or Dare.

We try to be politically correct. We attempt at being honest, but we fudge a little here and a little there. And, sometimes, we flat out lie even when we are aware of the truth. We do not want to hurt others ... or so we say. We try to be sensitive ... or so we say. We care for other people's feelings ... or so we say. And truth becomes the victim. Granted there are individuals who, in the name of being truthful, are just mean spirited. We do need to be sensitive and caring of others and their feelings. BUT, can we be truthful with ourselves? Now there's the rub!

Can we handle being honest with ourselves? Can we handle the truth? Can we honestly look our self in the mirror and truly admit the truth about our core? Or have we lived so long with those little “white” lies that we have started to believe them our self?

This is important especially as we approach God in prayer. If you can't be totally honest anyplace else, at least in prayer we have to be open and transparent ... and if we can't, then we make a mockery of the spiritual discipline of prayer.

A time alone with God can be very revealing if we will but allow our self to be honest allowing the voice of God to speak to our hearts reality. Otherwise, we just might hear God saying, “Oh, really! Who are you kidding”?

QUOTE:

“Be honest in your life it creates positive energy.” - Fathima Bibi Joosab

PRAYER:

Help us to be honest today. Help us become keepers of the truth. Help us place a value on truth above all else. Help us to be open to your revelation.

And the faith journey continues, Pastor Jim

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The Old Testament story of Balaam and his talking Donkey always was a little strange to me ... until I finally took a long look at it and discovered that there is something hidden deep at its core for all of us. Read it again in Numbers 22 and then I will “see” in worship this Sunday via Facebook.

We are making plans for in person worship on Sunday, October 25th ... praying that there isn't another surge of the virus.
