

THE END OF FALSEHOOD.

FIRST LESSON: COLOSSIANS 3:9:

Lie not one to another, Seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds.

GOLDEN TEXT: EPHESSIANS 4:25:

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

THE WORLD AND ITS FALSEHOOD:

Beloved brethren, if you are yet to practise any gospel in your life, it is necessary that you practise this particular one so as to enable you gain entrance into the kingdom of God.

The message contained in the gospel is short, straight forward and precise. You should bear in mind that, it is not out of dream, vision nor prophecy but purely the word of God which constitutes the basic truth. You are warned to desist from falsehood and to put off the old man with his deceits. What do you understand by the term, the old man? It is deceit. The whole world delights and thrives in deceit and falsehood. This accounts for the present predicaments in the world. The world is in a state of confusion and unsteadiness because of falsehood. Nothing in the whole world is firmly rooted because, everything was founded on falsehood. Anything founded on falsehood cannot last and it is for this reason that the present system in the world is fast crumbling and leading to total destruction. But truth endures for ever because, it has no beginning nor an end.

The only source of truth is He who is now sitting on the throne. He is the only one who speaks the truth and also practises it. He uses the truth to fight and overcome the world. He also uses truth to judge the world. There is no room for falsehood and everything is open before Him.

Once you appear before Him, a lawyer cannot defend you, for He is the judge of the supreme court. He is the supreme commander of the new age. In His judgement, no witness is required because nothing is hidden before Him.

It is quite true that peaceful and progressive nation is a reflection of its leader. In other words, when a good king is on the throne, his subjects are bound to rejoice and witness an era of prosperity. On the other hand, when a tyrant and despotic ruler is on the throne, his people suffer in anguish, oppression and deprivation, as violence, starvation and inflation become the order of the day.

Today, most nations in the world are devoid of peace and progress because of the activities and policies of their leaders. Armed robbery,

corruption, poverty, unemployment, violence and economic woes are the common features in many parts of the world today, because their leaders are sinful.

They do not want to hear anything about God. Hence, they have all failed and woefully, too. All of them have fallen into a bottomless pit and never to rise again.

The world does not like a truthful person. It is because of this that you hardly see a truthful person being appointed into any position of authority. This, they avoid because, they will not feel comfortable to cheat and loot in his presence. No matter the qualification and experience gained by a truthful person, he cannot be accepted into any position of authority in the world because, the people thrive on falsehood. In the place of a qualified and truthful person, the people of the world prefer to work with a deceitful man who can always permit corrupt activities, for he would easily collude with his colleagues.

There is a spiritual song which has it that:

The world despises the truth

but loves falsehood.

Brotherhood has brought truth

in the world.

Hold fast to the truth.

BE STEADFAST:

You have no cause whatever to tell lies for the purpose of achieving one thing or the other. Tell the truth and accept the consequences. From now on, you have been separated from falsehood, right from the day you were dipped into the water for three times in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, you were promoted from falsehood to truthfulness.

You should not allow anything to drag you again into a dying world. You should kill it completely from your life. Your entire life is completely controlled by the Holy Spirit, who, Himself is truth. Do not deceive anybody. Let your yes be yes and your no be no.

Do not be afraid of the consequences of telling the truth. Since we are all one in the Lord, it is an act of self-deceit and self-destruction to deceive any of our brothers and sisters. Whatever proceeds out of your mouth should be nothing but the truth. Whatever gains you have envisaged from falsehood should be shunned.

The present world is completely a new one, devoid of falsehood and deceit. It is the world of truth and solely for truthful people. If you fail to live a truthful life, you will perish. Falsehood means destruction while truth represents salvation.

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Whatever position you have attained through falsehood would finally lead you to destruction. Any certificate which a person falsely obtains, even if he has used it to gain employment, would at last lead to his demise because, falsehood cannot last. If you are yet to be employed, if you are with fake certificate, you would continue to look for employment without getting it; No matter your beauty, intelligence, and position in this world, if you are a liar, you have no place in the kingdom of God.

Conversely, if you are truthful, even if the people of the world do not recognise you or trample upon you, do not be despondent, for the owner and protector of truth has arrived. The present world is gradually and steadily dying to give way to truth. The kingdom of God belongs to the truthful ones. Whether you are an orphan, a pauper, an outcast or whatever, if you are truthful, it means you have a share in this kingdom. No matter how lowly you are placed by the people of the world, do not be despondent, if only you are truthful, you have a place in the kingdom of God. It does not matter, whether you are an indigene, stranger, alien, servant, weak, learned, black or white, if you are truthful, you have a share in this kingdom.

Nothing can prevent you from inheriting this kingdom. Speak the truth always and do the right. This is what is expected of anyone who desires to gain entrance into this kingdom. Do not circumvent the cause of a particular matter, for the sake of gaining from it. You should always present the truth as it is. That is all. Let all your daily endeavours centre around truth; eschew lies and resist any force that could cause you to tell lies.

Christ is truth and does everything in truth. That Christ endures for ever means that truth (which is Christ) endures for ever. So, to say that all things will pass away but the truth will endure forever means that, Christ will endure for ever. You cannot destroy the truth. Truth is the only qualification to this kingdom. It is the proverbial mustard seed: the least of all seeds but when it germinates, it grows into a giant where birds of the air make their nest. on (Mark 4:31-32).

Note that, to be truthful does not mean that, you are a righteous man because truth is just an element of righteousness. However, the fact that you know that you are not righteousness and accept it truthfully means you have gained salvation.

On the whole, you should strive hard to live a truthful and righteous life. In your business, you need truth more than money. If, for instance, you had booked an appointment with a person and fixed a date for that matter but, on the course of event, you fail to honour the appointment because of circumstances beyond your control, you need to inform the person quite in time, possibly before the date. You should also apologise for the failure. In short, you have to show remorse for the disappointment. In so doing, you have

Always keep to your promise. Do not, in an attempt to please a person, you tell lies. If you are two staying together, and it happens that your partner gives you twenty naira to keep for him, even without any documentary evidence, when eventually he demands for the money, you have to give him without hesitation. Do not deny any knowledge of the money. If you do that, you have lied.

FIRST LESSON: COLOSSIANS 3:9

Lie not one to another, Seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds.

HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH:

If you destroy another person's property, even in his absence, on his return, tell him what had happened in his absence. Do not mind what might be his reaction. It does not matter if telling the truth will cost your life. Keep on telling the truth at all times. Do not lie to another person for we are all one. Lying to another invariably means, lying to yourself.

The kingdom of God is truth. This sermon constitutes the truth which is the kingdom of God. If you find some one at fault, do not condemn such a person rather, with truth, restore him to the path of rectitude. Do not use force, for he has a choice of accepting or rejecting your words of admonition. Do not give praises to what is not good, thus projecting falsehood in disguise.

Whatsoever is founded on truth will remain forever but anything founded on lies will perish. The old world was founded on falsehood, hence the crumbling situation in the world today. The governments, institutions, churches and even individuals detest truth. They rather opt for blatant lies and take liars into confidence. That is the reason why in the world today, if you tell the truth, people will say that you are lying but if you lie, they will accept same for truth. The popular belief that man lives with falsehood and tricks without which one cannot survive, is strongly upheld by the people of the world. Even in your family, you are seen as a threat to the peace and 'power' of the family if you are always speaking the truth.

You may be a party to a certain wrong doing, but when eventually you are called upon to testify, you deny having any knowledge about the thing. Why do you deny? Are you a tree or an animal that you do not know that you should not lie? Beloved, do not allow any false word to proceed out of your mouth. Always speak the truth. Except Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, there is nowhere else that the truth is needed and practised, in the whole world. The so-called royal highnesses, governors, presidents and in fact, all leaders in this world are liars. They only make vain promises. They may tell you that they will give you one hundred naira tomorrow, but when you approach them for the one hundred naira, they will deny ever making such a promise to you, that is the situation in the world. Falsehood is secularized in the world, that is why the government of the various nations of the world are witnessing a downward trend.

Imagine the protection, mercy and love you get from God, yet you attribute the glory of these gestures to charms, mermaid and secret society. Have you not realised that in so doing, you have lied? It is common to hear somebody claim that without his carnal father, mother or relations, he/she would not have lived till date. This and other claims are false. How are these people protecting life when they, themselves are existing at the mercy of God?

At times, people testify thus:

"I am grateful to God because, He has saved my life from the torment of mermaid. Mermaid is very powerful but it cannot do me any harm because God has taken full control of my life." Though, you claim to be testifying to the glory of God, you have told a lie by attesting to the existence of mermaid, apparition, juju, wizard etc, which in the real sense, do not exist. In most cases, people sue to claim a certain parcel of land which they allege was owned by their fore-fathers. But the question is, when did their forefathers create land? If they did not, how come they own one? You would now realise that by making such claim, you have told a lie. The scripture has made it point blank that, heaven and earth and the fulness therein are God's (Psalm 24:1).

Why do you refer to person as a stranger? If another person is a stranger, what are you? You have then told a lie by claiming to be an indigene of the earth. You call another a servant, what are you? You are equally a servant, for all are servants of God, and none is the Master, even Christ. (Mathew 23:8). Many times, you come here to tell blatant lies. One would say, he has refrained from sin and that he or she does not fornicate, steal, dupe, worship idol etc. any more. But it should be known that, it is a great offence for one to make such false claims about himself. Try as much as possible to abstain from falsehood; knowing very well that, right from the day you were baptised, you have become a new being. And so, you should live a life devoid of falsehood.

If one is a visioner but his visions have never come to fulfilment, then, such a visioner is a liar. God speaks the truth at all times, as such, whatever He says must come to pass. The most expensive thing in the world is the truth, because God is truth. Read the golden text again.

GOLDEN TEXT: EPHESIANS 4:25

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

TRUTH IS OUR HALLMARK:

The above excerpt is the hallmark of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star. The whole world knows that members of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star do not go to court. They neither sue nor cause another person to sue them. The truth is in them and they strictly abide by it. And since they abide by the truth, they have no problem whatsoever.

You cannot contest the fact that one can make any false allegation against someone he does not like, and does not care about the extent of damage this might cause the other person. Recall that Stephen was stoned to death because of his excellent way of arguing the word of God. The people made false witness against him and at the end, condemned him to death. Even our Lord Jesus Christ suffered death in the same way. False allegations were levelled against Him and consequent on this, He was condemned to death on the cross.

Many people in the prison yards and in various cells in all the nations of the world are not criminals. They are there because people conspire and bear false witness against them hence, they are made to rot away in the prison custody. In fact, many problems encountered in the world emanate from falsehood. Therefore, brethren, let us all portray ourselves as the children of truth by actually practising the truth and teaching others so to do.

Fear no man but God. Do not allow anything to influence you to falsehood rather, always aim at doing the will of God which is the truth at all times. Even if speaking the truth will cause your life, keep to it. And do not be surprised that nothing can happen to you when you keep to the truth. Once you speak the truth, darkness will cease to be. The truth aids you to excel at all times. Just like the people of the world have started celebrating feast, wear whites and imitate most of our doctrines they will equally, at the fulness of time, emulate us by telling the truth.

There is one spiritual song in this kingdom which says: "the spirit which the Father has endowed us with advises us the right and truth to do at all times". This is true, because once you allow that Spirit to guide and direct you, you will not err.

A stroke of the cane is enough for the wise. May God bless His Holy words. Amen.