

THE SECRET OF HIS PURPOSE .... THE PLAN FOR THE FULLNESS OF THE TIMES  
**TO HEAD UP ALL THINGS IN THE KING,**  
EVERYTHING IN THE HEAVENS AND ON THE EARTH,  
**IN JESUS....**

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#71

***Jesus—the Reality!***

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One of the most profound philosophical (metaphysical) questions that was asked, nearly 2,000 years ago, of the one who is absolute truth came from a Roman ruler who could sense that there was something very different about Jesus. Here it is:

Pilate, then, said to Him, "Is it not then so? A king are you! Jesus answered, "You are saying that I am a king. For this also have I been born, and for this have I come into the world, that I should be **testifying to the truth**. Everyone **who is of the truth** is hearing My voice." Pilate is saying to Him, "**What is truth!** And, this saying, again he came out to the Jews, and is saying to them, "I not one fault am finding in him." (John 18:37-38 CLV [bold added])

Take special note that Jesus spoke of *the* truth and Pilate questioned truth, not *a* truth or *the* truth but truth (without any article) as a concept. Some say Pilate was asking a rhetorical question in a cynical way. The fact of the matter is that we do not have much to go on since we don't know the tone of his voice or the intent of his heart. It really doesn't matter, but I sense Pilate truly questioned what was transpiring between the Jews and Jesus. It seems that he did not want to kill Jesus and the Jews' desire for His death made little sense. Given the scenario, I imagine most of us in his position would question it. After all, for anyone standing in the presence of the King of all, there had to be a spirit-charged atmosphere that could be felt, even by the unbeliever, as if something significant were taking place. Even Jesus said the greater guilt for His crucifixion would be upon the Jews. Mind you; this is not a defense of Pilate, but then again, we are left to read into the story the heart of this Roman leader.

*What is truth* is an age-old question that the philosophers have asked for centuries. As with practically everything in life, the concept of truth has been abused, maligned, and distorted by those who see that the end or objective they seek to attain is justified by their means to get there. Given this, some cultures actually believe lying (opposite of telling the truth) is quite acceptable. The Jews used this technique in their trial against Jesus. Truth was on trial!

Today is no different as the masses are being manipulated and persuaded to get in line and follow orders as leaders hide behind what they call the *truth of science*, as if science is the only absolute truth. When we hear that the *science is settled*, meaning it is irrefutable and not to be questioned, then beware—science is never settled. As an example, we are now told that there is no question whatsoever that masks save lives, as if this is settled science; yet, sound scientific studies have failed to find any evidence. Masks and social distancing are tools of behavior modification. This is extremely dangerous. Truth and humanity itself, as we know it, are under attack!

To be clear, science has great value to humanity; in its pure sense, it can be a good thing. The problem comes when it is abused for political and ideological agendas and becomes weaponized

to gain power and control and money. There is a lot of this going on in our day, so be aware. For example, we have seen this in the so-called *science of manmade global climate change* that is now aligned with the so-called *medical science of a pandemic*, more broadly defined as *global health security*.

News flash: without an awakening of the masses, it is about to become worse than any of us could ever imagine. Many seem to have little clue about the darkness that has descended upon the earth and is beginning to manifest in greater measure until it is full-blown. If I heard the Lord correctly, the bad news is that ***the world has crossed the line of no return***. What started out as a perception instilled by fear among the masses has now become their reality. I just saw an article from an American university titled *Reality Shift*. As I have been stating for some time now, we are only in the beginning phases of the perfect storm. We are in the trial run. I realize this is not good news; but hold on, you know there is good news.

Now, **what is truth?** There are many ways to answer this, but I'll stick with a simple one: ***Being in accord with fact or reality. What is fact? Something that actually exists; reality; truth.*** Notice how *truth* and *reality* are presented synonymously in these definitions. What is reality? Philosophers and psychologists have their definitions of it; however, there is one definition that rises above all other definitions. We'll come to this in a moment, but first, through some examples, let's consider what truth is not.

First, you cannot say it is true there is no sun shining on the earth, or there is no moon, or there is no air to breathe, or that we don't exist at all. As Descartes philosophized: *I think, therefore I am*. To say you don't think is a contradiction because even the thought that you can make up your own reality requires some thought process, even if it is seriously flawed. **Truth must match what we know is true or real**, especially through simple observation; it's not false. Stated another way, truth is much like light; it exposes darkness or error. It's not hidden; it's the real thing. To use a common expression: *It's the real deal!*

Second, you can't look at a tree and declare it is a rock, any more than you can look at a newborn boy and declare it is a girl, for these don't match the objects. In some respects, some might argue that there is some relativity even in truth. For example, a size-2 outfit will not fit on someone requiring a size-10 outfit, for it would be impossible to squeeze into such a small size. But this is not relativity (as viewed in our post-modernistic world); it is simply a truth that size matters. **Truth must match the object in view.**

Third, one of the vital elements of living in reality is what Thomas Aquinas called, ***distinctions***: *It is the task of the philosopher to make distinctions*. The first two examples reveal distinctions, one is true and one is false. All of us must make distinctions all day long. The challenge today is that some in positions of authority are calling *good, evil* and *evil, good*. They are making distinctions, but they are false ones that need to be exposed by the truth. Making the proper distinctions (not distorted by delusions) exposes error. **Truth must expose error.**

Fourth, earth's gravity is a fact. You can't expect to jump off a 100-story building and survive (unless you have a parachute), no matter how strong one's opinion might be to the contrary. Truth is not something that changes by someone's whim, opinion, or emotional or delusional

state. It's not imaginary. **Truth must be anchored in a standard or principle or verifiable and repeatable fact.**

At the heart of these examples is this—truth is not anything you want it to be just because you might not agree with it or you want to redefine it to conform to a distorted imagination or ideology.

Now, let's go back to the opening verses recounting Jesus' encounter with Pilate. I have chosen to insert one of the alternative readings from Mitchell's *New Testament*, which offers *reality* as an alternative rendering for *truth* (in [ ]), making these words synonymous.

I should be **testifying to the truth [bear witness to Reality]**. Everyone **who is of the truth [from out of Reality]** is [habitually] hearing My voice." Pilate is saying to Him, "**What is truth! [What is Reality!]**

This leads us back to the question: **What is reality?** Of the many definitions, there is one that stands out in such a unique way that, when it comes to God's Son, it becomes the absolute definition of reality. ***Reality is something that has existed from the beginning of creation—an existent fact.*** Based on this definition, Mitchell is correct in offering this rendering. Why? Because there is only one that we are told existed from the very beginning of creation.

So, when Jesus declared that He is *the Way, the Truth, and the Life*, He was declaring that He is the Way into Reality and His Reality is Life. *I AM the Reality* (John 14:6). I AM existed from the beginning of creation. This is an existent fact, meaning He is not a possibility; He is Reality itself!

Thus, Jesus bore witness to reality. Everyone who is out from reality hears His voice. And, Pilate asked the ultimate question: What is reality? Or, what is real? Instead of a question, the *Concordant Literal Version* (CLV) turns Pilate's words into a declaration. Either way, it doesn't matter. To repeat: what matters is that truth is reality, so that when Jesus declared *He is the Truth*, He was in essence declaring *He is the Reality*. He's not just a reality or one among many realities, which there are. He is reality itself. Let this sink in.

Now, let's see how Jesus matches the four basic components of truth-reality laid out earlier.

**Jesus is real.** *I AM!* Jesus as *the Word* or *Logos* is an *existent fact* that precedes creation. *In the beginning ... Logos!* John, chapter one, makes this very clear. As Paul wrote: *For in Him all things were created. He is the place where you'll find all the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge.* He's the reality of life conquering death, for Paul and the others testified that they saw Him after He was raised up from among the dead. Jesus appeared to over five-hundred brethren (1 Corinthians 15:6). He lives, for the grave could not hold Him. This is reality that no other can claim, for He manifests, explains, and embodies all that life is. He is the Life and the Reality.

**Jesus matches the object in view.** *This is My Son whom I have installed as My King! Hear Him!* He is the object, *the Son of God's love*. We who believe have been transferred into His kingdom.

**Jesus exposes error.** *I Am the light of the world.* His light destroys all darkness and error. As His people, we are now the light of the world, and we have been given the spirit of truth. We have Reality—not a twilight zone as many seem to be living in today. We have entered into Reality. Your life is now hidden with Reality in God. When Reality, who is our life, is revealed, then we will be revealed with Him in glory. There is nothing hidden in glory.

**Jesus is anchored in a standard or principle or verifiable and repeatable fact.** He is our hope, the anchor of our soul. His life has been repeatedly verified through the many lives laid down for the testimony of Jesus. He is the Pattern Son who is *the same yesterday, today, and for all the ages.* God has no other standard. He is God's only begotten Son, and the pattern for all sons of God that come unto glory. He is distinct from Adam and his progeny—He is the last Adam, the second man from the realm of God, that is progressively bringing forth a new humanity of sons of God—a new family for His Father.

To highlight this point, here is a quote from T. Austin-Sparks, taken from an editorial letter in *A Witness and A Testimony*, March-April 1958, Vol. 36-2:

*God works toward reality ... The end of every phase of the progressive purpose of God has been marked by a sifting, challenging, and testing of things as to their reality. ... **With God, Christ is the only Reality, and that is not temperamental, mystical, not a matter of plain or ornate, ritualistic and ceremonial, or bare and simple. Christ, revealed by the Holy Spirit in the heart, as by Divine fiat, corresponding to the "let there be light" of creation, is the only Reality!***

If Paul were with us today, I imagine he would agree with a resounding *AMEN*. One of the greatest set of verses (some call a *poem*) in all of scripture was penned by Paul, the apostle to the nations. Here is a compilation of Colossians 1:15-20, from several translations, in which Paul presents **God's ultimate and absolute Reality—His Son, the Anointed One of God, the Christ and the King, the Reconciler of all things.**

(15) He is the image of God, the invisible one, the firstborn of all creation. (KNT)

(16) For in Him all things were created—the universe of things in heaven and on earth, things seen and things unseen, thrones, dominions, principedoms, powers—all were created, and exist through and for Him. (WNT)

(17) And HE IS before all things and in and through Him the universe is a harmonious whole. (WNT) ... He existed before anything else, and He holds all creation together. (NLT)

(18) And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. (ASV) ... And he is the head of the body, the congregation [Gr. *ekklesia*—called out ones], who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he might have the preeminence. (JUB) ... He is the start of it all, firstborn from the realms of the dead; so in all things he might be the chief. (KNT)

(19) For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him. (TLV) ... God himself was pleased to live fully in his Son. (CEV) ... for in Him the entire complement delights to dwell... (CLV)

(20) and through Him to reconcile all to Him (making peace through the blood of His cross), through Him, whether those on the earth or those in the heavens. (CLV) ... and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (ESV) ... Through him uniting all things with himself, having made peace through the blood of his cross; through him, I say, uniting all things which are on earth or in heaven. (BBE)

What an amazing Reality!

In today's chaotic and confused world, many are saying we are in a new reality. To a degree, this is true. Truth and reality can be applied in every aspect of our lives on earth and these might change over time when new facts come into view. There are many truths, even realities, that are factual. However, there is one truth, one reality, one *existent fact* that stands out from all other truths and realities that is unchangeable, immovable, and irrevocable. It is discovered in the one in whom all creation is created and held together—God's Son.

To reiterate what I have written elsewhere: In the midst of all that is happening and yet to come, **lay hold of God's Reality—Jesus, who is the Son of God! If we are not solidly based in God's truth or reality, which is absolutely embodied in His Son, we will be easily sucked into an altered reality (existence) that is not of God, even though it might seem real or valid based on events or a variety of other things. It will become a metaphysical crisis to us.**

See: *Metaphysical Crisis* — <https://www.kingdomandglory.com/prophetic/p103.pdf>

**Trust the spirit of truth that abides in you. This is our way into all truth. Who abides in us? The Anointed One who is the Truth! Live in His reality!**

Jesus is our *only* way through these evil, dark days. He is the wonderful solution to all that plagues mankind. When all seems lost and so unreal, just remember that King Jesus is the Reality—absolutely, unequivocally, and ultimately. He is the good news.

### ***Postscript***

Some might think that I am overstating the need to emphasize Jesus as the Reality and the only solution to mankind's problems, as if all we need to do is hold to this Reality. After all, He isn't expecting us to sit around and do nothing, is He? Of course not! However, there is a way to "do", and this is discovered in the life of our Lord. Jesus lived in perilous times—in some respects, far more so than our day. The Romans excelled at ways to kill people, and one of their heinous ways was crucifixion. The fear of this would have led most people to remain in line and not challenge Roman authority. How did Jesus navigate those days?

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing.** For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. ... **"I can do nothing on my own.** As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me. (John 5:19-20, 30 ESV [bold added])

Jesus could do nothing on His own. This was the testimony of His life on earth. Where did the Father's will lead Him? To the cross!

Jesus told His disciples: ***Apart from Me you can do nothing*** (John 15:5). Paul took this to heart and testified: ***I can do all things through Him who strengthens me*** (Philippians 4:13). Where did the Lord lead Paul? To die daily. Ultimately, he was led to the executioners of Rome! Except for John, the rest of the original disciples faced similar fates. Can we expect anything less? Jesus says: ***Take up your cross and follow Me!***

Have we fallen short in testifying through our life that Jesus is the Reality? It is time to come out of our dream-state and embrace the fullness of the Reality. Only as we live in the Reality, which is Christ, are we truly free. Only in this Reality are we able to do God's will.

***Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.***