

God's Spoken Truth

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some relational characteristics between a monarchy and their people?
2. How important was it to trust your parents teaching and promises when you were a child?

“It [the Word of God] comes to woo us as well as to instruct us; it not merely puts us in the picture of what God has done and is doing, but also calls us into personal communion with the loving Lord himself.” (Knowing God, pp. 110)

God's Word is Spoken Truth

Truth is defined as a quality or statement that is in exact accordance with reality in the past, present and future tense. We believe God's Word to be the true and the final standard to truth. The reasoning is if truth is defined by what it really is in reality; then God must be the standard of truth because he created everything with his absolute power and wisdom. The Word of God testifies this first in Genesis and then throughout the Old and New Testament. God created us to hear his truth and respond.

“They are the index of reality; they show us things as they really are, and as they will be for us in the future according to whether we heed's God's words to us or not” (Knowing God, pp113)

The Creator King Speaks

Scripture reveals two consistent themes when God speaks to us. It is that God is King over all of creation and he uses words to express his will being done. This duality of his character calls us to be a relationship where we must acknowledge him as our creator and king. God speaks his edicts to us and desires to engage us intellectually and spiritually.

A relationship with God means acknowledging him as Creator.

1. God existed before the universe existed. God created everything in all its wonders and complexities through his power. God ordered and set into motion everything with his wisdom. God spoke the universe into existence. God created us to listen to him and steward his creation.

^[3] And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ^[4] And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ^[5] God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. (Genesis 1:3-5 ESV)

“Man for all his genius is but an echo of the original Voice, a reflection of the uncreated Light. As a sunbeam perishes when cut off from the sun, so man apart from God would pass back into the void of nothingness from which he first leaped at the creative call.” (The Knowledge of the Holy, pp. 44)

A relationship with God means acknowledging his Kingship.

1. God's words are not just royal decrees but words that invites us to know him and serve. He speaks to us in the way of instruction, testimony, and promise. His words in Genesis chapters 1-3 set the tone and manner of our relationship with him.

[29] And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. [30] And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. (Genesis 1:29-30 ESV) God's Testimony

[16] And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, [17] but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” (Genesis 2:15-17 ESV) God's Instruction

[15] I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” (Genesis 3:15 ESV) God's Promise

“...we see the word of God in all the relations in which it stands to the world, and to man within it – on the one hand, fixing man's circumstances and environment, on the other, commanding man's obedience, inviting his trust, and opening to him the mind of his maker.” (Knowing God, pp. 111-112)

Our Response to the Creator King

God in his infinite love and grace has called us to respond to his invitation of service and fellowship. . God created us out of the dust, raised to a level a little lower than the angels, and bearing his likeness so that we can give him glory.

1. We should obey God's commands because they show us what it means to be fully human in his service and fellowship. Failure to obey God's command hurts our relationship with God but also bit by bit hurts our souls.

“For this is part of the purpose of God's law: it gives us a working definition of true humanity. It shows us that we were made to be, and teaches us how to be truly human, and warns us against moral self destruction.” (Knowing God, pp 114)

^[19] Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ^[20] For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. (Romans 3:19-20 ESV)

2. We should have faith that every fulfilled promise God has made will give us hope for the promises he has proclaimed for the future. We have to realize these promises are very important during our times of desperate prayer and joyfulness because even our salvation is based on a promise by God.

“God is true. His Word of Promise is sure. In all his relations with his people God is faithful. He may be safely relied upon. No one ever yet really trusted him in vain. We find this precious truth expressed almost everywhere in Scriptures, for his people need to know that faithfulness is an essential part of the Divine character. This is the basis of our confidence in Him.”
(Attributes of God, Pink pp. 68)

^[13] Then the LORD said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ^[14] But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ^[15] As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ^[16] And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.” (Genesis 15:13-16 ESV)

Conclusion

“This truth, while a needed rebuke to human self confidence, will when viewed in its Biblical perspective lift from our minds the exhausting load of mortality and encourage us to take the easy yoke of Christ and spend ourselves in Spirit-inspired toil for the honor of God and the Good of mankind. For the blessed news is that the God who needs no one has in sovereign condescension stooped to work by and in and through His obedient children.” (The Knowledge of the Holy, Tozer pp. 57)

^[16] For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ^[17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:16-17 ESV)