Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings



May 2022

MOR-Bible, which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, peace to you and grace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Father, thank you for your Word which is your Will and the truth that sets us apart as we make it our necessary food and water in this life. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

In the January through March 2022 <u>teachings</u>, we started searching, tracing, and tracking in the scriptures the meaning of some of the English word translations from the Greek texts as documented in 1 Timothy 2:4:

Who [God] will have all men [peoples] to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

We study God's Word to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15). We have traced and tracked in the scriptures the following English words **who** (which refers to God), **saved**, and **knowledge** and their Greek words translations from 1 Timothy 2:4. We learned the word **who** refers to God and is the Greek word Theos. In the May 2021 teaching, we defined, traced, and tracked in God's Word some of the usages of the Greek word Theos.

We also learned our English word **saved** is the Greek word *sozo* which means "to make sound, to save; to preserve safe from danger, loss or destruction." Our English word **knowledge** is the Greek word *epignosis*. There are twenty occurrences in God's Word of the Greek word *epignosis*. Sixteen (16) times in God's Word the Greek word *epignosis* translated to **knowledge** and four (4) times out of the 20 occurrences **knowledge** translated to **acknowledgment**.

In the <u>February 2022</u> teaching, we learned in the first usages our English word **knowledge** which is the Greek word *epignosis* which means "clear and exact knowledge; a knowledge that has a powerful influence on the knower; full knowledge." This teaching looked at the choice individuals make regarding homosexuality. Romans 1:28 tells:

And even as they [homosexuals] did not like [or approve] to retain God in their **knowledge** [the Greek word epignosis], God gave them over to a reprobate

mind [a mind void of judgment], to do those things which are not convenient [the Greek word for "convenient" is katheekon which means seemly, befitting, fit or proper].

Homosexuals, by their free will, refuse to retain a clear and exact knowledge of God's Word, which has a powerful influence on the knower. Through their choice, they refuse the full knowledge or *epignosis* of God who formed, made, and created the world and all things contained therein.

In the March 2022 teaching, we continued the work we did in the February 2022 tracking, tracing, and searching of the scriptures. We reviewed the next nine (9) usages for the Greek word *epignosis* used for our English words knowledge and acknowledgment from 1 Timothy 2:4. It was breathtaking and electrifying to read in God's Word these nine usages of the Greek word *epignosis* translated into our English word knowledge and acknowledgment. With this understanding, we can rightly divide the scriptures, make a distinction, and come to a decision daily that we have received a clear and exact knowledge or *epignosis* of God's Word. We study God's Word to show ourselves approved to God, a worker that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

In the <u>April 2022</u> teaching, we searched, traced, and tracked in the scriptures the last ten (10) usages of the Greek word epignosis used for our English word **knowledge** and **acknowledgement** from 1 Timothy 2:4:

Who [God] will have all men [peoples] to be saved, and to come unto the **knowledge** of the truth?

With this understanding of our English words **who, saved**, and **knowledge** (and their Greek translations), we can worship God in godliness which is our real, true, vital, and spiritual relationship with God our Father. Godliness is profitable to all things because it has the promise of the life for now and for the future (see 1 Timothy 4:8).

It was thrilling and exhilarating to read in God's Word what He wants us to have a clear and exact knowledge of with regards to **who**, **saved**, and **knowledge**. God's Word is pure "as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times" (Psalms 12:6). God has magnified His Word above all His name (Psalm 138:2). Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has sanctified for us through the truth of His Word!

In this month's teaching, we will continue our search and track some of the usages of the Greek word *aleethia* which translates to our English word **truth** as documented in 1 Timothy 2:4. We will read some examples of the Greek word *aleethia*. As translated to our English word **truth**, the Greek word *aleethia* means "truth, as the revealed reality lying at the basis of, and agreeing with, an appearance; the manifested, veritable essence of a matter; hence, the reality appertaining to an appearance or manifestation, truth."

The sources for all Greek-English words are <u>The Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament</u> Bullinger (1975) and <u>Young's Analytical Concordance to the Bible</u> (1982).

Let's look at some of the usages of *aleethia* in God's Word. We will bold the word *truth* for emphasis. John 17:17:

Sanctify them through thy **truth** [the Greek word aleethia]: thy word is **truth** [the Greek word aleethia].

In this verse, we the believers are set apart by the **truth** of God's Word on which we act! The Greek word *aleethia* as translated to our English word **truth** is used twice because God's Word double established His Word is truth! Genesis 41:32 tells us:

And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

Continuing our review of *aleethia*, let's look at 1 Timothy 2:4:

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia]?

Our goal is to receive the Word of God with all eagerness of mind, and to search the scriptures daily to show ourselves approved to God. We are to be a worker that needs not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15)!

When we tracked and traced the Greek word *aleethia* used for our English word **truth**, there were 110 occurrences of the Greek word *aleethia* translated to our English word **truth**. Of these 110 occurrences, it is translated **truth** 107 times, **truly** once in Luke 20:21, **true** once in Ephesian 4:24, and **verity** (e.g., a true principle or belief, especially one of fundamental importance) once in 1 Timothy 2:7.

We will read the first and last usages of *aleethia* and then some usages from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. From our tracking and tracing in the

scriptures the Greek word *aleethia* used for our English word **truth**, we will clearly see that the Word of God is the truth! In the first usage of the Greek word *aleethia*, which translated into our English word **truth**, God's only begotten son Jesus Christ is teaching the way of God in truth! When you read the beginning of Matthew 22, Jesus was teaching the Word of God to multitudes of peoples by using parables. Let us read Matthew 22: 14-15 for context. Jesus said in verse 14:

For many are called, but few are chosen.

Verse 15:

Then went the Pharisees and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk.

In these verses, we see that the Pharisees sent one of their disciples with the Herodians for the purpose of trying to entangle Jesus in his talk or words. The word "entangle" means "to lay snares, for, to trap."

Matthew 22:16:

And they [the Pharisees] sent out unto him [Jesus] their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in **truth** [the Greek word aleethia], neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men.

Jesus Christ taught the truth of God's Word regardless of who the person was! We are to follow his example and teach the **truth** of God's Word regardless of who the person is. When we teach the **truth** of God's Word to people, some of them will try to lay snares or try to trap you, but they will either marvel at or reject the **truth** of God's Word!

In 3 John, there are six (6) usages of the Greek word *aleethia* translated to our English word **truth**. The context for this in 3 John is a letter from the elder to the well-beloved Gaius stating that he loves Demetrius in the **truth** (Greek word *aleethia*). See 3 John 1 for this context.

3 John 1: 12 has the last usage of aleethia:

Demetrius hath good report [witness] of all men, and of the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia] itself: yea, and we also bear record [witness]; and ye know that our record [witness] is true.

Demetrius had a good witness of all the brethren and of the **truth** of God's Word! The brethren in the body were witnesses, and they walked in the **truth** of God's Word making their witness true! In our times, we rejoice greatly when we see a brother or sister walking in the **truth** of God's Word!

The following are additional usages in the Gospels where Jesus taught and spoke the **truth** of God's Word.

Mark 12:32:

And the scribe said unto him [Jesus], well, Master, thou hast said the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia]: for there is one God; and there is none other but he.

The scribe said to Jesus, "Master thou hast said the **truth** for there is one God; and there is none other but he." How many Gods are there? There is one and He is our God!

Luke 20:21:

And they [the spies from the chief priests and the scribes] asked him [Jesus], saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of any, but teachest the way of God **truly** [the Greek word aleethia].

Jesus Christ taught the way of God which is the Word of God truly in truth! How is he the truth? Look at John 1:14:

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and **truth** [the Greek word aleethia].

John 1:17:

For the law was given by Moses, but grace [God's unmerited divine favor] and **truth** [the Greek word aleethia] came by Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ was born in the flesh. Yet, he fully declared God's, his Father, grace and truth!

John 4: 23-24:

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in **truth** [the Greek word aleethia]: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

God is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in **truth** [the Greek word aleethia].

There is a figure of speech used in this verse called *hendiadys* which means two things said, but one thing meant. The first of the two words expresses the thought, and the second word is used to intensify it to the greatest degree. In this verse, "*spirit and truth*" are the two words representing the figure of speech *hendiadys*. The first of the two words expresses the thought or "*in spirit*." The second word "*truth*" intensifies it to the greatest degree. This verse teaches us that the only way to "*worship God is in spirit* [by speaking in tongues] *and in truth.*" John 17:17 *says:*

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is **truth**.

Jesus said in John 8:32:

And ye shall know the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia], and the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia] shall make you free.

The Greek word *aleethia* as translated to our English word **truth** is used twice in this verse which God double establishes as **truth**. When we believe in Jesus Christ and continue in God's Word, we experientially know the **truth**. The Word of God is the **truth**. The Word of God, which we experientially (e.g., relating to, derived from, or providing experience) know, shall absolutely make us free! The English word "free" is the Greek word *elutheroo* which means to free, set at liberty, to save from *thraldom* (the state of being under the control of another person slavery, thrall, thralldom, bondage). See October 2021 teaching.

Jesus Christ always spoke the **truth** of God's Word! We are to follow his example and speak the **truth** of God's Word and walk in the **truth** of God's Word.

John 8: 40:

But now ye [Pharisees] seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the **truth**, [the Greek word aleethia] which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

John 8:45 and 46:

And because I tell you [the Pharisees] the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia], ye believe me not.

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Which of you [the Pharisees] convinceth me of sin? And if I say the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia], why do ye [Pharisees] not believe me? (See October 2021 teaching.)

John 14:6:

Jesus saith unto him [Thomas], I am the way, the **truth** [the Greek word aleethia], and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

This is incredible. Jesus Christ said "I am the way, the **truth**, and the life: no one can come unto the Father but by me"! Jesus did not say. "I am one of the ways." He said "I am the way, the **truth**, and the life." There are many great people that have done remarkable things in this world, but none of them was "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4).

God raised His son Jesus Christ from the dead and sat him down at His right hand:

In the heavenly places far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all (Ephesian 1:20-23).

There is no other way to receive salvation from God, except by His only begotten son the Lord Jesus Christ!

Acts 4:12:

Neither is their salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

John 17:17:

Sanctify them through thy **truth** [the Greek word aleethia]: thy word is **truth** [the Greek word aleethia].

God has double established His Word! God our Father has delivered us from our unclean state and set us apart through the **truth** of His Word! The Word of God is the **truth**, and the Will of God is His Word!

Romans 10: 9-10 instructs us on how to get to God the Father through His only begotten son.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

This is the **truth** of God's Word, and it is indisputably a clear and exact knowledge of God's Will for us to be saved! According to the **truth** of God's Word, there is no other way! If you do not like what God's Word say, then call Him a liar or reject His Word.

In this month's teaching, we searched and tracked some usages of the Greek Word *aleethia* as translated into our English word **truth**. We read the first and last usages of *aleethia*. We also read some usages from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. From our tracking and tracing in the scriptures the Greek word *aleethia* or **truth**, we clearly saw that God double establishes that His Word is the **truth**!

In the first usage of the Greek word *aleethia*, we read where Jesus Christ taught the **truth** of God's Word regardless of who the person was! And in the last usage of the Greek word *aleethia*, we learned it is our heart's desire that 1. We have a good witness of the **truth** of God's Word and of all the brethren; 2. The brethren in the body of Christ are witnesses and we walk in the **truth** of God's Word, and 3. We rejoice greatly when we see a brother or sister walking in the **truth** of God's Word!

In our review of the Gospels for the Greek word *aleethia*, we learned the **truth** is documented in God's Word:

- For there is one God; and there is none other but he (Mark 12:32).
- And the Word [Jesus Christ] was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and **truth** (John 1:14).
- Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ (John 1:17).
- The true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in **truth** for the Father seeks such to worship him (John 4: 23).
- God is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4: 24).
- And we shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free (John 8:32).
- A man [Jesus Christ] that hath told you the **truth**, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham (John 8: 40).
- / [Jesus Christ] say the truth (John 8:45).

• Jesus saith unto him [Thomas], I am the way, the **truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14: 6).

Father, thank you for your Word which is the **truth**. Father, thank you for your only begotten son who taught the **truth** of your Word and gave us an understanding of your Word. Father, thank you that your Word is clear and exact when it says, " *Your son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: and that no man comes unto You Father, but by Your son, who you raised from the dead and sat him down at Your right hand in the heavenly places far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come" (Ephesians 1: 20-23). Father, thank you for making it available for us to worship you in spirit and in truth. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.*

Next month's teaching: we will review usages of the Greek word *aleethia* documented in the Church Epistles of Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. In these Epistles, Paul taught and spoke the **truth** of God's Word.

Bless your hearts, you are the best and we love you.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation
Son of God through Jesus Christ
Ambassador for Christ