

GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



GIG33 The Truth Verses The Lie

I've been deeply concerned about things that are going on around us in this day and age. And one of the obvious problems that we see is a tremendous spirit of division that is working in the age that we're in, the culture that we're in right now. And I want to talk about the truth versus the lie today, because we've got to go deeper into real answers of where we're at and what's taking place.

First of all, I want to just say, God is truth. Yeshua, Jesus is truth. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth. Now, on the other hand, Satan is lie. He's not a liar, he is lie. The end time battle as I see it, is a battle between truth and lie. It's the truth against the lie. If we make it about good and evil, or if we make it into a political struggle, if we are trying to deal with things on a human level and in a subjective manner, then I think we have a problem. If we focus on the truth and the lie, we're dealing with factual issues, we're dealing with things in an objective manner.

This is not about a culture war. I know it seems like it is. It's not about the left against the right. It's not about Republicans against Democrats. It's not about so many of the things that it seems like the wars or the battles are all about that are surrounding us in this timeframe that we're living in. We know that according to the scripture, our battle is not against flesh and blood. And anytime we use these kinds of terminology, like culture war, left against right, we find ourselves focusing on people. We find ourselves focusing on the subjective. In other words, good and bad. What is good? What is bad? It depends who you are. It depends where you were raised. It depends how you were raised, what culture you're in. All of these things throw you into a subjective evaluation that ends up being one person against another person.

And as believers, it's absolutely imperative that we see this and recognize it, because every time we'd get on this level, we are in a battle against flesh and blood. We're against the guy next to us, or the person down the street from us, or the person across national lines or whatever it is. But our battle is not against flesh and blood.

It is so hard to believe that number one, and to keep yourself aware of that and functioning with the understanding that the battle of the end time, the battle for the kingdom, is not a battle over flesh and blood. It is a battle of truth against the lie. When we put the battle in those terms, then we're talking about God against Satan. Now we are having something that is very objective, because truth is objective. Lie is objective. There is no black and white in here as we get into it. There's no gray areas. Something is either truth or something is a lie. And those things are not up to human evaluation.

As I said in the beginning, God is truth. Yeshua, Jesus is truth. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth. When we get into the scriptures, we see Satan is lie. All of these things are scripturally defined. And I want to dive into that right now and work with this reality because we must see it. We must understand it. We must have a revelation of it, in order to move forward in these days, bringing us into the kingdom. In these days of difficulty, tribulation, whatever you want to call them, we must understand where the real issues lie.

In Ephesians 6:12, it reminds us, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the Spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." Our struggle is not about flesh and blood.

And again, when we get onto that level, we know immediately, we're moving in a wrong way as believers. We first of all, must see and understand that God is true. God is the truth. Numbers 23:19: "God is not a man that he should lie, nor the son of man that he should repent. Has he not said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken and will he not make it good? God is not a man that he should lie. He does not lie. God is truth."

Hebrews 6:18. "So that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie," remember this, it is impossible for God to lie. He is truth, and he speaks the truth. He always speaks the truth. He cannot lie. "It's impossible for God to lie. We who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope that is set before us. This is the hope that we have. Our strength is in knowing that God is truth."

Titus one verse two: "In the hope of eternal life, which God cannot lie, promised long ages ago." Beautiful.

John 3 verse 33: "He who has received his testimony has set his seal to this, that God is true."

Romans three verse four: "May it never be, rather let God be found true, though every man be found a liar as it is written, that you may be justified in your words and prevail when you are judged." God is the truth. He speaks the truth.

1 John chapter 5 verse 19: "We know that we are of God and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him, who is true in his Son, Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children guard yourself from idols." In other words, do not be convinced of anything else. We are in God who is the truth. His Son is the truth. He is in us. We are in him. We are to dwell in the truth and the truth is to dwell in us.

Psalm 31, verse 5: "Into your hand I commit my Spirit." We know these are the words of Yeshua on the cross. "Into your hands I commit my Spirit. You have ransomed me, Oh Lord, God of truth."

So we see through the scriptures, and I'm just throwing verse after verse at you, because I want it to be convincing to you how scriptural and how real it is through the word of God that his word is true, he is true. He speaks the truth. He cannot speak a lie. The other thing we find is like we said, Yeshua, Jesus is the truth. John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me."

John, 1 verse 14: "And the word became flesh and dwelt among us. And we saw his glory. Glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 18 verse 37, "Therefore Pilot said to him, 'So you are a King.' Jesus answered, 'You say correctly that I am a King. For this I have been born. And for this, I have come into the world to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth, hears my voice.'" Very convincing words of the Lord.

We also recognize that the Holy Spirit is the truth. He is the Spirit of truth. John 14, starting at verse 16: "I will ask the Father and he will give you another helper that he may be with you forever. That is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see him or know him. But you know him because he abides in you and with you and will be in you. He is the Holy Spirit of truth. The Spirit of truth, who will be with you and will abide in you." This is a deep aspect of this revelation about the truth versus the lie, because we are of the truth. And more than that, the truth dwells in us and will be in us.

John 16:13 says, "But when he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth, for he will not speak on his own initiative, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will disclose to you what is to

come." The Holy Spirit speaks from the Father. And as we saw earlier, the Father cannot lie. And so the Holy Spirit is speaking the truth. He comes to guide us into all truth. He comes to teach us the truth.

John 15:26: "When the helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father. He will testify about me." And what does he testify? He testifies that Yeshua is truth.

First John chapter five verse six: "This is the one who came by water and blood; Jesus Christ. Not with water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies because the Spirit is the truth." Wow, is that awesome? The Spirit is the truth. So we see this. The Father is the truth. The Son is the truth and the Spirit is the truth.

What a wonderful thing. If you've ever said, "Well, I don't understand how the Trinity can be one." This is an amazing reality. They are one in being the truth. And there is no other truth other than God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. So they are one because they are the truth; that makes them one.

On the other hand, we see that the devil is lie. He is not a liar. He is lie. John 8:43: "Why do you not understand what I'm saying?" This is Yeshua speaking. "Why do you not understand what I'm saying? It is because you cannot hear my word. You are of your father, the devil, and you want to do the desire of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar, and the father of lies." In the Greek, it doesn't say, "For he is a liar." It says, "For he is lie and the father of lies. But because I speak the truth, you do not believe me."

So we see this, as much as God is truth, Satan, the devil is lie. It's not a thing, it's the nature. The nature of God is true. The nature of Satan is lie. And when we get into understanding what goes on and takes place in the days of the end, we understand that it is again, not a culture war. It is not a battle against flesh and blood. It is the reality of a battle of truth against the lie. Satan comes to convince the whole world of a lie. God comes to bring the truth and set us free from that lie.

In James 3:14 it says, "But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth." This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural demonic. When you have the lie, you have that which is demonic. It is the nature itself of Satan. This is why we should be so careful not to lie. And I think it's true. I think we need to teach our children very early on not to lie. Why? Because you're associating. You can't just lie. You associate yourself with the very nature of the lie and that becomes your father.

In 1 John 2:21 it says, "I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie is of the truth." There is no lie that will bring you ultimately to the truth. That is really a lot of what we see going on in this age around us. It's just like, there are so many lies that are being spread out there and told out there as though that is to bring us into the truth. If you believe the lie, then you come to the truth. And that's what many people are trying to do.

But again, it's not a battle against flesh and blood. It's not the sons of God against the cancel culture. It is the truth against the lie. And however many lies you try to bring about, you're not going to lead people to the truth. There is no truth in lie. It is only lie. It is always lie.

But we, on the other hand it says, "But we know the truth." Why do we know the truth? Because resident in us is the Holy Spirit of truth. And so in our spirit, we know the truth as we are connected and filled with the Holy Spirit.

John 8:32 says, "And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." This is a key component of how we walk with God through this age as we are constantly seeking to know the truth. Whenever

we come to a knowledge of the truth, it breaks, it shatters, it destroys from us, from around us and from within us, anything of the lie.

And so we long, we are driven to know the truth. And who is the truth? The Father. Who is the truth? The Son. Who is the truth? The Holy Spirit. We long to know the truth because the truth will make us free.

1 Timothy two verse three, "This is good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth." God's drive is for us to come to the knowledge of the truth. It's not just to be saved. We can't just say, "Oh, I'm saved." No, we are to come to the knowledge of the truth. It takes more than just the salvation experience that says, "The Lord has washed me from my sins and my sins are taken from me." No, we have to come to the knowledge of the truth.

This is a next step, that's why we call it maturing. That's why we call it growing in God, because salvation is the first step of something that must lead us into our relationship with God. And that relationship is a full knowledge of him, who is the truth.

John 4 verse 23, "But an hour is coming and now is when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth. For such people the Father seeks to be his worshipers. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth."

What an encouragement to us. We want, we long to be his worshipers. God is seeking worshipers. He's seeking this out of his relationship with us and in his relationship with us, he wants worshipers. He wants us to be his worshipers, but we cannot be filled with the lie and be as worshipers. We cannot be struggling under deception and believing lies and speaking lies and worship God. We only worship him in Spirit and in truth. We must be delivered. As it says, we must come to know the truth and be set free by the truth. And when we come into that freedom, it opens the door for a freedom of worship by Spirit and truth. We want to become those who worship him, who is the truth. And the only way to worship the truth is to know the truth and be the truth in ourselves.

1 John 4:6 says, "We are from God. He who knows God listens to us. He who is not from God, does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the Spirit of error." This was something that John was saying is, "Listen, we have the truth in us. And we can tell those who are above the truth because they listened to us. We have a common relationship and bond in the truth. And by that, we can tell if someone is in the truth or an error." So as the apostles matured in this knowledge of the truth, it literally became for them a source of discernment and a source of revelation, to be able to see the truth and to know the truth in others around them.

So we understand again, that this is going to be the point through which judgment comes. What is judgment about? Judgment in the end time is again, going to be the truth against the lie. The judgment of God comes upon the lie, which is Satan. And all that are his sons by virtue of having become one with his nature, which is a lie, which is lie. You don't just lie, you become lie. And thereby you choose Satan as your father.

We want to flee from this as far, as fast as we can. We want nothing of the lie in us, because if the lie is in us, it is the nature of Satan dwelling in us. And we do not want to be found in his likeness. We want to break the bonds. One of the ways to break any bond with Satan is to refuse the lie.

In Ezekiel 13:8, it talks about this thing of judgment based on lie. It says, "Therefore thus says the Lord, God, because you have spoken falsehood and seen a lie, therefore, behold, I am against you declares the Lord." God is going to be against any and all who have spoken falsehood, who speak the lie and see the lie. In other words, it's not just physical sight. It's having lie as their revelation, lie as their belief, their belief in the lie. And that is turns God against those individuals.

In Romans 1 verse 24, it says, "Therefore God gave them over in the lust of their heart to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the creator who is blessed forever. Amen."

See, this is the thing, you exchange the truth for a lie. We are born of God. Adam and Eve were born of God, but they exchanged the truth of what he spoke to them and what he told them and what he directed them. They exchanged that for the lie of Satan saying, "Oh, did God say don't eat this, because you'll die? Oh, well, you won't die." They exchange God's truth saying, "If you eat this, you're going to die," for the lie of Satan saying, "If you eat this, you won't die." It's just believing the lie. It's exchanging the truth of God for the lie, which is Satan. And they became akin to his nature.

What did they do next? They hid themselves. Then what happened when God found them? They lied. "Oh no, we're not hiding. No, that's not what's going on here, God." They went from hiding to lying, but they'd already taken on the nature of the one who was the lie, because they exchanged God's truth for the lie that he gave them.

This is heavy. I know it's heavy. I know it may seem difficult for many, but we have to break any bond that we have with the lie. We have to see ourselves free. How do we get free? We get free by beholding him, by being changed into his image.

Jeremiah 13:22: "If you say in your heart, why have these things happen to me? Why is this judgment coming?" See, why are we being judged? Why is judgment coming on the earth? "If you say, why have these things happen to me? Because of the magnitude of your iniquity, your skirts have been removed and your heels have been exposed. Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard, his spots? Then you also can do good who are accustomed to doing evil. Therefore I will scatter them like drifting straw to the desert wind. This is your lot. The portion measured to you from me, declares the Lord. Because you have forgotten me and trusted in falsehood. You've trusted in the lie."

And what happens? What is this referring to? I know some may not really understand the language here of the stripping away of the skirts and the heels being exposed. It means in the days of judgment, as we come into them, the lie will be exposed. As much as Satan tries to hide, as much as people hide, people build structures, houses for themselves in the lies that they tell. They build personalities, personas about themselves, all with lie. And God says, "As I come in judgment, you're going to find that the lie is removed. It says your skirts have been removed. The skirts are just representing that, which you're using to hide the fact that it's a lie. Your heels have been exposed." In other words, you've covered yourself as thoroughly as you can, but all the way to your heels, you will be exposed.

It says in verse 26: "So I, myself have also stripped your skirts off over your face, that your shame may be seen." The shame of the lie will be seen. The lie will be broken. It will be exposed. Do not build for yourself a house of lies. Come to the truth. Live in the truth. Let the truth set us free, as we have this walk with God and come to the ability of worshiping him in Spirit and in truth.

Isaiah 28 says: "Therefore, thus says the Lord, behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, a costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed. I will make justice the majoring line and righteousness the level. Then hail will sweep away the refuge of lies and the waters will overflow the secret places."

God comes as a hailstorm. He comes as a flood. And this was speaking to the people at the time of Jeremiah, because he'd spoken to them what not to do. And they said they made a covenant with death and they made a covenant with Egypt and stuff to deliver them. And God says, "It's not going to work. I'm going to come and I'm going to sweep away all of your lies that you're trying to live in, that you're trying to hide in, this secret place that you've built." Where you have lies, you have secrecy. Where you have lies, you have hiding. And God says, "I'm going to come in judgment and I'm going to sweep that

away like a hailstorm. I'm going to sweep it away like a flood. And I'm going to cancel your covenant with death and your pact with [inaudible 00:26:18] when I come."

This is tremendous language, and it's very intense and it's an expression, but we will see this in these days because these days are about the truth coming against the lie and destroying the lie. And it will happen. We will see it with our eyes, by the grace of God.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 "And then the lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will consume with the breath of his mouth and destroy with the brightness of his coming." The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan with all power, signs and lying wonders and with all unrighteous deception, among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth that they might be saved. And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion that they should believe the lie.

Once you start believing the lie, you actually get something from God that comes against you of a diluting Spirit until you cannot stop believing the lie. And isn't an interesting, boy, you listen to the news in this day and age, you listen to people and you're going, "That lie is so obviously a lie, how in the world can anybody believe that or bite on that?" This is how. Because they have refused and they've exchanged the truth for the lie and they've not received the love of the truth. God himself has sent a strong delusion that they should believe the lie.

Going on to verse 12, "That they all may be condemned, who do not believe the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. But we are bound to give thanks to God, always for you brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning, chose you for salvation through sanctification, by the Spirit and belief in the truth."

I don't know. This is heavy. You don't see this very simply. We talk about sanctification, but sanctification and belief in the truth are one in the same. We are sanctified through our belief in the truth, and this is what God brings to us. He brings to the one who loves the truth, believes the truth, he brings us sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. These are wonderful verses. Well, depending on what side of the coin you're on. If you're believing the lie, they're not too wonderful. If you're loving the truth, these are great promises to have.

We live in an age when Satan seeks to hide his nature of lie and deceive the whole world in believing he is the truth. And if it were possible in this end time, even the very elect of God could be deceived. 2 Corinthians 11 verse 4 says: "No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore, it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds."

Matthew 24:24 says: "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders." And remember it said, these are lying wonders. "So as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I've told you in advance."

God is warning us about this and that's why we don't want to get caught up in the ways of the world. We don't want to get caught up in thinking that the fight is something that it's not. We don't want to get caught up in, in the problems of flesh and blood and everything that's going on. We want to keep our focus absolutely pinpointed on the truth. That is what the issue is all about.

In Matthew 24:22 it said, "Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved. But for the sake of the elect, those days will be cut short." God will will cut these days short. They are days of deception. They're days when Satan is trying to promote himself and those who serve him and those who have become in his likeness of the lie, to make them look as though they are right, they are the truth and make God look like he's the one who's lying.

You say, "Oh, that seems impossible." No, it's exactly what he did with Adam and Eve. He said, "That's not true. What God said, you're going to die? No, you're not going to die if you eat the apple. He just

doesn't want you to compete with him." He turned God into the liar. He painted God to look to Adam and Eve like he was lying, when he was and is the truth.

He is doing the same thing in this age. Do not bite on the lie. Do not go the way of Adam and Eve. Do not believe what he's promoting. It will look wonderful. It will look like he's an angel of light. It will look like his sons are the wonderful ones, and God's sons are the ones who are causing the problem and speaking lies. Do not bite on it. God himself said, "If these days are not shortened, there would be no flesh saved alive. But he will shorten these days of the lie, lest everyone find themselves in deception."

There are some key points I'd love for you to recall and to study out of this. One, God is God, the Father Christ our Lord and the Holy Spirit are the truth, and they are one. I also want you to remember that as we pursue maturing in God, we choose God as our Father. And as we do that, we are transformed from glory to glory, into his image, which is the truth. Go back and look at second Corinthians 3:18. Also the opposite is true. You don't just tell a lie. You choose a father. And as you choose that lie and choose that father, you are transformed into his nature.

Lastly, Satan appears as an angel of light to disguise his nature of lie. We must therefore cry out to God in these hours. We must cry out to God for discernment by the Holy Spirit of truth, that we might know the truth and be set free from the lie, by the truth.

Father, let us not be deceived by the lies of this age, and let us not be drawn into the battle of flesh and blood. But by your grace, let us discern the truth from the lie. And let us come to know you, the One who is the truth. And we ask this in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach. Amen.