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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Series: Book of 3rd John

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The Book of 3rd John (05) (Walking in Truth)

John applauded Gaius for the testimony given to him by others regarding his walking in truth.

(3 John 3) “**For I was very glad (chairo/ a.p.ind.1ps/ lian) when brethren came and testified to your truth, that is, how you are walking (peripateo / p.a.ind.2ps) in truth (aletheia).**”

- **Point:** Gaius' walking in truth could be seen by others.
- **Point:** Gaius' walking by truth was an accepted norm and standard of a spiritual life style.
- **Point:** This means that Gaius' Christian Way of Life (CWL) (walk) was governed by the Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) residing and functioning in his soul every day.

(3 John 4) “I have (echo / p.a.ind.1ps) no greater joy (meizon chara) than this, to hear (akouo/ p.a.subj) that (hina/ purpose) my children (ta teknon) walk (peripateo / p.a.ptc.asm) in the truth.”

- The Greek word is **aletheia**. It refers to the reality at the root of a truthful essence of a matter.
- The Hebrew word for truth is (**emeth**). It refers to a solid or absolute rule of life.

This can be seen in Joseph's conversation and dealing with his brothers in Egypt (Gen.42:14-16; 50:20).

(Gen.42:16) “Send one of you that he may get your brother, while you remain confined, **that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you.** But if not, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies.”

This lesson will study four aspects of Walking in Truth.

1. **The world argues that since the world began the world is constantly changing and life and truth are always changing with it. Therefore there are no absolutes. Yet this statement itself could be considered an absolute.**

Beliefs may change but not the reality of Divine Truth.

You may believe you could fly like superman with a cape but the law of gravity will teach the reality of divine truth.

God is of order with absolutes –

(1 Cor.14:33) “For God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”

Beliefs may change about God but the truth is that God is immutable.

(Heb.13:8) “The same yesterday and today and forever.”

Beliefs may change about laws of Divine Establishment of Divine Institutions but it does not change the reality of the Truth about them.

(Matt.19:5) “For this reason **a man** shall leave his father and mother and be joined to **his wife**, and he two become one flesh.” (Gen.2:24; Eph.5:31) [The Divine Institution of Marriage]

Beliefs may change about moral absolutes but it does not change the truth of God’s Word.

(Jude 7) “Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, **since they in the same way** as these **indulged in gross immorality** and **went after** strange flesh, are **exhibited as an example** in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.”

There has been a steady decline in beliefs of moral absolutes among Christians in the USA over the past 25 years. “Only 44% of born again adult Christians and 9% of teens believe in absolute moral truth.” (Los Angeles Barna Research, 9/17/02)

2. Absolute truth comes from the Essence of God known as Veracity. God is 100% true, 100% of the time.

Omnipresence	Sovereignty
Omnipotence	Righteousness
Omniscience	Eternal life
Immutable	Love
Veracity	Holiness

(Isa.65:16a) “Because he, who is blessed in the earth, will be blessed by **the God of truth.**”

(Heb.6:18) “So that by two unchangeable things in which **it is impossible for God to lie**, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.”

(1 Thess.1:9) “For they themselves report about us what kind of reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God.”

Jesus two prayers

- **Before the cross:** “This is eternal life, that they may know You, **the only true God**, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” (John 17:3)
- **On the cross:** “Into your hands I commit My spirit; You have ransomed Me; **O Lord, God of truth.**” (Luke 23:46; Ps.31:5)

3. Absolute truth is in all three members of the Godhead – “With Whom there is no variation of shifting shadow.” (James 1:17b) [Immutable]

- **Holy Spirit:** “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 with you and will be in you.” (John 14:17)(2 Pet.1:20-21)
- **Jesus Christ:** “**I am the way, and the truth, and the life**; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” (John 14:6)

Jesus Christ is the manifestation and embodiment of the absolute truth of God.

(John 1:14) “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as the only begotten from the Father, **full of grace and truth.**”

(John 1:17) “For the Law was given through Moses; **grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.**”

4. Therefore the Bible as the word of God is absolute truth

(Ps.119:160) “**The sum of Your word is truth**, and every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.”

(John 8:31-32) “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

(John 17:17) “Sanctify them in the truth; **Your word is truth.**”

(Eph.6:14) “Gird loins with truth”