

Why Haven't You Obeyed The Truth? By Carroll R. Sutton

If you are one of the thousands of people in this country who have not obeyed the truth of God, please examine your heart and search your soul to see if you can determine why you haven't. Is it because:

You Don't Know The Truth?

If this is the reason you haven't obeyed the truth, let me assure you that you can know the truth if you are willing to give diligence (study). The truth will make you free (John 8:32). Timothy was encouraged to study so he could rightly divide God's truth (2Tim. 2:15). (See Eph. 5:17; John 5:39; 17:17; Acts 17:11-12). Christians would be willing to come into your home and study God's Word with you. May they?

You Don't Believe The Truth?

If you know the truth and don't believe it, you have a serious problem. The only way you can receive faith is by hearing the Word of God. (See Rom. 10:17). Only you can believe for you. You will make up your mind to believe or not to believe. It is a matter of choice. But in order for you to have eternal life, you must believe!

You Don't Love The Truth?

If this is your problem, you have a very serious one. You had better change your heart (mind) or you will be lost forever! Many will perish (2Thes. 2:10-12). You may be among those described in this passage! Are you?

You Don't Want To Be Happy Here?

Surely, you desire a life of happiness here on earth. The only way you can have genuine happiness is by obeying the truth. (Please read and study 1Peter 3:10-11; Luke 11:28; John 13:17; Psalm 1:1-6; Psalm 23; Ecc. 12:13-14).

You Don't Want To Go To Heaven?

Surely you desire to go to Heaven, don't you? But your going to heaven is conditioned upon your obedience to the truth. (Rev. 22:14). If you haven't obeyed the truth, why haven't you?

“Dam Up the Detroit River!”

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4).

The story is told of a machinist at Ford Motor Company in Detroit who was taught the gospel and was baptized. He became a devout follower of Christ and desired to right his many wrongs. He had been stealing parts and tools from the Ford Company for many years. Shortly after his conversion, he took all of the stolen parts and tools back to his foreman. He explained his situation and recent conversion and asked for forgiveness. This response by an employee was without precedent. Mr. Ford, who was visiting a European plant, was cabled concerning all the details of this matter with a request for his response. Mr. Ford immediately returned a cable with his decision: “Dam up the Detroit River, and baptize the entire city!”

Paul said, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2Cor. 5:17).

"I Once Shot a Woodpecker"

By W. Carl Vernon

I was looking through the hometown newspaper the other day and I came across this: "A speaker was lecturing on Forest Reserve.

"Speaker: I don't suppose that there is a person in the house who has done a single thing to conserve our timber resources.

"Silence ruled for several seconds, and then a meek voice from the rear of the hall timidly retorted; 'I once shot a woodpecker.'

"Conserving timber resources was the thing of most importance to the speaker in this story, and it seems that he was trying to impress upon everyone else this important fact. The man who had "once shot a woodpecker" had done very little toward accomplishing the end the speaker had mentioned.

That put me to thinking about something a little different, but extremely more important. What have we (I) done toward making the church of which I am a member the most effective in reaching others with the gospel. The answer comes back, "I once shot a woodpecker."

The Flea and the Elephant

'Tis said that a flea rode across a bridge one day in ear of an elephant. After they were on the other side, the flea said to the elephant, "Boy, we sure shook that bridge."

Too many church members ride on the efforts of others but are ready to grab credit for the glory of a job well done.

The church faces many responsibilities in this day, and it needs all the members doing everything they can, not for the glory or credit, but for the work's sake. Paul said, "For every man shall bear his own burden." There are some things that the other fellow can't do. You are the only one that can do them. No one can attend for you; no one can give for you; no one can commune for you; no one can sing for you. These and others are matters for you to consider. Don't be like the flea.

Let Your Light Shine

A traveler came to a small village. Night was coming and people were hurrying through the streets carrying bronze lamps. When he asked about this, the reply was that the people were all going to the village church building. When the building was built it was decided that each member would bring his own light and there would be no other way to light up the building, so each person realized that if he were not there, the building would be darker. As more and more members came, the building became brighter.

Do you realize that the church needs the light of each member, not just on Sunday morning but for all of the other services? "Do all things without murmuring and questioning; that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God with blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom ye are seen as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life" (Phil. 2:14-16).

Christ, the Supreme Model

“The most destructive criticism has not been able to dethrone Christ as the incarnation of perfect holiness. The waves of a tossing and restless sea of unbelief break at His feet, and he stands still the supreme model, the inspiration of great souls, the rest of the weary, the fragrance of all Christendom, the one divine flower in the garden of God.” (Johnson)

A Moments Wisdom

Honest mistakes need correction just like other kinds of mistakes do.

It is much easier to give advice than to lend a helping hand.

To err is human, but when the eraser wears out before the pencil, you're over-doing it.

Faith must have adequate evidence or else it is mere superstition.

Compromise is always wrong when it means a sacrifice of a principle of truth.

The Christian must have “won’t” power as well as “will” power.

How young folks turn out depends to a great extent on what time they turn in.

When people have little thirst for righteousness, the sermons will seem dry to them.

The early church was no more Roman Catholic than the apostles were Americans.

The less religion a person has, the more entertainment it takes to get him to attend regularly.

Some people are so busy earning bread for their children, they forget that a child does not live by bread alone.