

we sincerely love the truth (Jesus and the Bible), we will hate every false way.

Do You Obey God's Word?

The relationship between Christ and the believer produces another cause and effect situation. The love of Jesus produces obedience to His Word. Jesus taught in John...

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments [or words]."
(John 14:15 NASB)

John the Apostle further teaches that if our love of God is to truly be perfected, we must keep Jesus' words. He also says that this is one of the tests we can use to know if we belong to Jesus. John wrote...

"but whoever keeps His (Jesus) word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him." (1 John 2:5 NASB)

Conclusion

"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (1 John 2:4)

We have learned two tests of our love of truth. The first is, if we genuinely love Jesus, we will intensely love and obey His Word. The second is that if we actually love the truth, we will hate everything false.

Thus, we have two measuring sticks we can use to calculate our love for Jesus. First, how much time we spend in His Word and second, how fully we obey it.

If we care little for the Bible, then we care little for Jesus! We can also measure our love for Jesus and the Bible, by how much we hate EVERY false way. It is easy for evangelical Christians to hate doctrines of the cults; however, do we hate every wind of false doctrine that is accepted by large sections of the Church? Do we love and know our Bibles well enough, that we can detect these winds? Do we really hate sin (first in ourselves, then in others)? If not, we must ask ourselves "Am I being real in my love for Jesus?"



By: Robert W. Dallmann

*"(11) My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined.
(12) Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food."*
(Job 23:11-12)

"(103) How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! (104) Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way."
(Psalm 119:103-104)

More Necessary Than Food!?
WOW! Job says that he esteemed the words of God's mouth as more im-



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portant than food essential to keep him alive. Can we say that? Here is a simple two question test:

- How many times per day do we eat?
- How many times per day do we read the Bible?

Meditating on the Word of God should be a ***GREATER PRIORITY*** to us than consuming our daily food! If we stop eating natural food, our body will starve and die. When we neglect to devour the Word of God, our spirit will starve and die.

What Is "The Truth"?

Jesus is!

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

The Bible is!

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is TRUTH." (John 17:17)

Attempting to make a separation between Jesus (the Living Word) and the Bible (the Written Word) is a horrible error. This distinction allows some to claim that they "love Jesus" while at the same time they can "downplay or ignore" the importance of the Bible. After all, the Bible is also referred to as "living", see the verse from Hebrews below.

"For the word of God is LIVING and active and sharper than any two-edged sword..." (Hebrews 4:12 NASB)

Perhaps the best way to show this inseparability of Jesus and the Bible is in chart form.

| Jesus | The Bible |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| - is the Word (John 1:1,14) | - is the Word (2 Tim. 3:16) |
| - is the Light (John 1:9) | - is the Light (Psalm 119:105) |
| - is the Truth (John 14:6) | - is the Truth (John 17:17) |

These are just a few passages substantiating the point. Many other such relationships could be shown. Such as, Jesus being the Way, and the Bible showing the way. Jesus being the Living Water and the Bread of Life, and the Bible being our milk and meat. Jesus being our Savior and the Bible making us wise unto salvation.

Do You HATE Evil?

Returning to the original question, "Do you love the truth?"; we find that love of truth and hatred of evil exist in a cause and effect relationship. If one really loves the truth, this will create a hatred for that which is false. The more intense the love of the truth, the more intense will be the hatred for that which is false! This relationship is not a theory; it is a fact taught in the Bible. We will see this clearly in the following section.

The True Way vs. Every False Way

Let's examine our relationship between Jesus, the "True Way", in comparison to the false ways; as well as, comparing what the Bible teaches versus error. Jesus says...

"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." (Matthew 6:24)

This verse clearly teaches that loving one master equates to hating the other one.

Re-read Psalm 119:103-104 (quoted at the beginning of this document), and then read the following passages from Psalm 119. These scriptures clearly teach the relationship between loving truth and hating that which is false.

"(127) Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold. (128) Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I HATE EVERY FALSE WAY." (Psalm 119:127-128 emphasis added)

It is clear from these verses, that the degree of love we have for the truth will produce a similar degree of hatred for that which is false. It is impossible for one to love Jesus and God's Word without hating every false way! Read all of Psalm 119. The psalmist intensely loved God and His Word and he proclaimed that he intensely despised every false way. It must be the same for us. If