

Pleasant Valley
Church of Christ

3317 Amidon
Wichita KS 67204
(316) 838-4195
www.letjesusleadus.org

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Classes 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am
Evening 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Classes 7:30 pm

The Pleasant Valley Church of Christ is a non-denominational group of believers who are committed to following Jesus in our attitudes, our relationships, and our worship. If you want the same thing in your life, please contact us. We'd like to help.

Unless otherwise noted, all scripture quotations are from the New King James Version Bible, Thomas Nelson Publishers.

Wings



*"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31)*

April 26, 2009

What is truth?

by Eric Hamilton

During Jesus' trial before Pilate, Jesus made a statement concerning truth: "I have come into the world to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." To that Pilate replied: "What is truth?" (John 18:37-38)

Let's consider two things about truth that we can learn from this brief exchange. First, there is such a thing as definitive truth. There is a way that things are, and there is a way that things are not. Second, there are people who will either refuse to see truth, even when it's proclaimed to them. They may outright reject it, or they may simply throw up their hands as Pilate did, and declare truth an impossibility to grasp.

Truth is not something that is always easy to see. Two different people looking at one thing can come away with very different opinions of what that thing was. Someone can make a speech, and different people can come away with radically different ideas on what was actually said. The one who sees things as they truly are is one that Jesus describes as being "of the truth." This gives the idea of being in alignment with the truth. In order to see truth, one has to be in sync with the truth. Many people heard Jesus, but only some accepted it for what it really was.

Consider the twelve spies that were sent into the land of Canaan after the Israelites fled from Egypt (Numbers 13-14). They all saw the

same things. They all saw how good the land was, and how small in stature they appeared to the inhabitants of Canaan. They also had all experienced the power and deliverance of God who brought them out of Egypt through the ten plagues and the parting of the Red Sea. But with all of the exact same experiences, and seeing the exact same things, they came to very different conclusions.

Ten of the spies said it was impossible to take Canaan, while two said they could. The truth was that they could, if they trusted in God. However, the multitude believed the ten spies and they couldn't take the land. They were not of the truth. They saw and heard, but they did not truly see or hear.

What causes one person to see giants and be scared, and another to be confident? What causes one person to believe in Jesus, and another to reject him? What really is happening is that those who see the giants of Canaan and are scared aren't seeing everything. They are only seeing one piece. They only see the giants, but they refuse to see God. Those that reject Jesus hear him, but they refuse to see God in Him.

God is just as real as everything that we can physically see or hear. It is through that knowledge of God that we can see things as they truly are. But it also does you no good unless you come to accept God and the truth for yourself.