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## Who do you believe?

We are told many things every day. Some we accept, others we reject. Some we think about, others we pass by.

The word of experts is often believed because, after all, they are *experts*! We know that in court cases each side can bring in their own expert witness, and they do not agree. Who do you believe? We also know experts are not always correct. There are cases where, sometimes years later, a conviction was overturned because of the inaccurate testimony of an expert witness.



So, who are we to believe? What testimony is accurate, reliable, true?

When it comes to the greatest matters, the most important questions of life, there is only one always true and reliable witness — God. The apostle John wrote,

“If we receive the testimony of people, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. The one who has the Son has the life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have the life” (1 John 5:9-12).

The Bible tells us God is “the only true God” (John 17:3), that it is He “who is true” (1 John 5:20), and He “cannot lie” (Titus 1:2). We recall Jesus telling us, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). The Bible is God’s totally true word to us. King David testified, “Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth” (2 Samuel 7:28). We also recall that God told us through the apostle Paul, “all Scripture is inspired by God” (2 Timothy 3:16) — it is breathed out from God to us through the human writers, sharing His perfect and true nature in every word.

God is true. His word, His testimony is true. Aren't you glad that His testimony is always true?

Because God is true, because His word is true, we can know with full assurance "that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. The one who has the Son has the life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have the life" (1 John 5:9-12). This is the greatest truth for us, for everyone!

Yes, there are times and situations where we find it difficult to accept and live by God's truth in the Bible. Life is difficult, people disappoint us, our bodies are letting us down, people we love die. We may struggle with really trusting God's good promises to us.

We know that when people let us down, break the trust we have had with them, that it can be a long process to reestablish that trust. While at times we may feel that God has let us down, He never does. The reality stated in His word is that God never lies, never breaks His promises. As Joshua testified and encouraged the people of his day and us today,

"you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the LORD your God spoke concerning you has failed; they all have been fulfilled for you, not one of them has failed" (Joshua 23:14).

Then also remember that Satan, the Bible tells us, "is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44), is a deceiver (Revelation 12:9), that he "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Satan and his forces are constantly at work trying to get us to doubt, lose trust in our forever good, forever true, forever faithful God.

Live believing God and His truth. Rejoice and walk in the full armor of God, including "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

Pastor Lyle