

Buy The Truth And Sell It Not

Intro: Solomon, outside of Christ, was the wisest man who ever lived. Since, that is true, the admonitions given by Solomon should be worthy of our earnest consideration. Especially is this true when we recognize that he wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Notice what Solomon advises in Pro. 23:23 “Buy the truth, and sell *it* not; *also* wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.” Let us look closely at the phrase “buy the truth and sell it not”, as it applies to our spiritual welfare.

I. BUY THE TRUTH.

A. Truth is the commodity we are urged to buy; but what is truth? This is the question Pilate asked (John 18:38 “Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault *at all.*”) which we need to answer.

1. John 1:17 “For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”
2. John 8:31-32 “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; ³²And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
3. John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
4. John 17:17 “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
5. John 18:37 “Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”
6. Truth, therefore is the word of God as taught by Jesus Christ: the New Testament.

B. Why should we buy it?

1. It sanctifies us; John 17:17 “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
 - a. This signifies we are unclean.
 - b. Rom. 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
 - c. Gal. 3:22 “But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”
 - d. Isa. 59:1-2 “Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: ²But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.”
2. Cannot go to the Father without it; John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
3. The grace of God and truth are inseparable; John 1:17 “For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”
 - a. We are saved by God’s grace.
 - b. Eph. 2:8 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:”
 - c. Tit. 2:11-12 “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹²Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;”

II. BUY ALL THE TRUTH.

A. When we but something materially we desire it all: a part is no good.

B. Acts 20:20, 27 “And how I kept back nothing that was profitable *unto you*, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,... ²⁷For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.”

III. BUY ONLY THE TRUTH.

A. Since truth is found in the New Testament; we must demand book, chapter, and verse.

B. The churches of Christ are happy to do this.

C. All error is composed of some truth.

1. Satan: “Ye shall *not* surely die.”

2. All religion teach some truth, but part truth and part error cannot save.
 - a. Faith without baptism; Mark 16:16 “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
 - b. Baptism without faith; Acts 8:36-38 “And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? ³⁷And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.”

IV. **BUY THE TRUTH.**

- A. **Buy as used in our text means to lay hold of, to procure or to accept.**
- B. **To be saved one must accept or lay hold of the truth.**
- C. **1 Pet. 1:22** “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently:”

V. **BUY THE TRUTH REGARDLESS OF COST.**

- A. **Mat. 13:45-46** “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: ⁴⁶Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.”
- B. **Are we willing to pay the price?**
 1. Self-denial; Luke 9:23 “And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”
 2. Severing of friendships and family ties; Mat. 10:34-37 “Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. ³⁶And a man’s foes *shall be* they of his own household. ³⁷He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”
 3. Forsaking the old way of life; Rom. 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. ²And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
 4. May mean even death; Rev. 2:10 “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

VI. **BUY THE TRUTH NOW.**

- A. **Buy it: do not be content to intend to buy or accept it.**
- B. **Too many have been, and are, lost by intent and nothing more.**
 1. Acts 24:25 “And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.”
 2. One of the greatest hindrances Satan has placed in the world: “I will obey, but later.”
- C. **Buy it now.**
 1. 2 Cor. 6:2 “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.)”
 2. Heb. 4:7 “Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”
 3. Jam. 4:13-14 “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: ¹⁴Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

Conclusion: If you are not buying or accepting the truth you are selling or rejecting it to your eternal remorse. No reason is sufficient for selling the truth and not buying it now.