

THE Way, THE Truth, THE Life...

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The night He was betrayed, JESUS said: That's Me!

Wow! Now, I don't know anybody who would say such things, do you? But when JESUS spoke, we are told by reliable sources... *He spoke with authority*, and not like the educated elite of the day.

Still amazed after many years, the beloved disciple wrote: *we heard him, we saw him, we touched him*. Apparently, what JESUS said was so unusual to their ears and eyes... that they wanted to know JESUS was real. John was the one who leaned on JESUS' chest at that last supper; and though he didn't have a stethoscope, John probably wanted to know he wasn't seeing and hearing some phantom.

John wrote: JESUS is the Word... who was with the God; HE is the True Light come into the world; He is the only-begotten of the Father; grace and truth come by JESUS; He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world; He is the Christ, the Messiah sent from God; He is the Teacher; He is the Son of God; He is a Master Teacher of Israel; He is the Savior of the world; He is the Bridegroom coming for His Bride; He is the gift of God; He is the Living water; He speaks and people are healed; He works on the Sabbath; He feeds 5,000; He walks on water; He is the Bread of life; He is the living Bread from heaven; He is the Light of the world; He was before Abraham; He is the Door of the sheep; He is the GOOD Shepherd -- so, He is the GOOD Pastor...

And when He said those things amid all his lessons... that touched their minds and hearts; they said, NOBODY speaks like him. Have you ever known anybody who said those kinds of things?

Now, I would have to agree with the people. In my circle of friends and colleagues from graduate school, and professional associates reaching around the world... and other very capable, successful contacts... NONE of them ever sounded like JESUS. Oh, occasionally a few had ample egos... yet NONE have impressed me to follow them and give my life for them.

...but it does not stop there!

John wrote: JESUS said: *I Am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet will he live; whoever believes in Me will never die.*

Then He walked over to the tomb of Lazarus who had been dead 4 days... as they took the stones from its entrance. Then, when all the hurried activity and the whispering crowds... hastily gathering went quiet... then JESUS gave thanks to God his Father... and He called out with a loud voice: Lazarus... come **here!**

We can move rocks and unwrap grave clothes. Only JESUS can speak and raise the dead.

It is interesting, we know His mother was a very thoughtful woman *thankful to God her Savior whose name is Holy*. She pondered many things in her heart; but the one thing we know she said about Him is:

Whatsoever He says unto you, do it!

That's good advice! Too bad most who claim to like her... don't do what she said.

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JESUS said: **I Am the Way**... in Greek, *hodos*... denotes: a path, road, street or highway. In the dictionary: a road for travel and transportation from place to place; the route; a course of action; a method or manner of doing or happening.

Those in the upper room, that night JESUS was betrayed knew the first reference in the scripture to: **way**... was after Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden... and access to Eden was prohibited... *to keep / guard to protect the way to the tree of life* -- **Genesis 3**.

The disciples sang in the congregation:

Blessed is the one who does not stand in the way of sinners; the LORD knows the way of those doing right; but the way of the wrong... will perish -- **Psalm 1**.

They sang:

I love Thee, O LORD, my Strength. The LORD is my Rock, and my Fortress, and my Deliverer; my Strength in whom I trust; the way of God is perfect / complete; the word of the LORD is tried and sure; for who is God but the LORD; who is a Rock but our God; God girds me with strength, and makes my way blameless -- **Psalm 18**.

They sang:

The LORD is my Light and my Salvation, whom will I fear? Teach me Thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a straight way -- **Psalm 27**.

They knew the last reference to the **way**... was when the word of the LORD came to Israel:

You have departed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching... says the LORD of hosts -- **Malachi 2**.

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple -- **Malachi 3**.

And JESUS knew that night He was betrayed... John the Baptist had completed his assignment: *preparing the way of the LORD*...

So now, JESUS could complete his assignment: *to give the knowledge of salvation; to declare the remission of sins... through the compassion of our God; to give light to them sitting in darkness, and in the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace*.

HE said: I am the route to travel from here... all the way to My Father's house... because in His Father's house are many rooms. He is planning for a big family of adopted kids.... and all the rooms come with a grand view of all His creation.

JESUS said: **I Am the Way**...

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JESUS said: **I Am the Truth**... in Greek, *aletheia*... denotes: the objective reality lying at the basis of an appearance; a biblical *a priori* truth is what we hold as self-evident. In the dictionary: the body of real things, events, and facts as opposed to untrue, false, and lying things.

Those in the upper room that night JESUS was betrayed, they all knew the very first reference to **truth**... Eliezer the servant when he was to find a wife for Abraham's son Isaac... and he gave thanks to God; *Blessed be the LORD.... who has not forsaken His compassion and His **truth** toward my master; as for me the LORD has guided me in the way to the house of my master's brothers -- Genesis 24.*

The disciples sang in the congregation:

*To thee O LORD, I lift up my soul. Show me thy ways O LORD, teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy **truth**, and teach me; for you are the God of my salvation; on thee I wait all the day -- Psalm 25.*

They sang loudly:

*LORD, you have been favorable to the land; you brought back the captivity of Jacob. Mercy and **truth** have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed each other. **Truth** springs from the earth; and your righteousness looks down from heaven -- Psalm 85.*

They are the men and women who first sang:

*Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the LORD... He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored... His **truth** is marching on! Glory, glory hallelujah... glory, glory hallelujah... glory, glory hallelujah His **truth** is marching on!*

The disciples also sang:

*I extol Thee / I tell out... I raise high... my God, O King; and I will **adore** / I bend my knee to Thy name forever and ever. The LORD is righteous in all His ways; and holy in all His works. The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in **truth** -- Psalm 145.*

The people who gathered knew JESUS recently said... to those Jewish leaders who believed on him -- Nicodemus, and others like him: *If you dwell in My word, **then** you are My disciples... and you will know the **truth**... and the **truth** will make you free -- John 8.*

The disciples who gathered... would soon hear: *The Spirit whom the world cannot see... when He, the Spirit of **truth** is come, He will guide you into all **truth**: for He will not speak of himself, but whatever He will hear, He will speak; and He will show you things to come -- John 16.*

HE said: I am the route to travel from here... all the way to My Father's house...and JESUS was busy that night wrapping up the business of why He came; yet He was not so busy to negligently add confusion to those He loved. JESUS made sure His students understood; *if it was not so, He would have told us.* JESUS said: **I Am the Way, the Truth**...

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JESUS said: **I Am the Life**... in Greek, zoe... denotes the life of God; zoe is also the common possession of mankind... and all the animals in God's creation. In the dictionary: life is the quality that distinguishes a vital and functional being from a dead body.

Those in the upper room that night JESUS was betrayed, they knew the first references to **life**... when God commanded the waters *bring forth abundantly the moving creature that has life* -- Genesis 1.

They knew... *the LORD God formed Adam out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into Adam the breath of life*; and Adam became a living soul -- Genesis 2.

The disciples also knew... *out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food*; [1] *the tree of life* also in the midst of the garden, and [2] *the tree of the knowledge of good and evil* -- Genesis 2. And they knew... the problem that ultimately developed with that second tree, of the knowledge of good and evil... when Adam and Eve messed up.

They sang in the congregation:

The LORD is my Light and my Salvation; whom will I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, whom will I dread? -- Psalm 27.

The disciples sang loudly:

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High, will abide under the shadow of the Almighty. He will call Me, and I will answer; I with him in the trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With a long life I will satisfy him and let him behold My salvation -- Psalm 91.

Like Levi of old who turned many to the Lord, the disciples knew... the LORD had given them *a covenant of life and peace*... to teach His people.

Remember, JESUS said: *I Am the resurrection and the life*; *whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet will he live; whoever believes in Me will never die*;

And then He walked over to the tomb of Lazarus who had been dead 4 days... as they took the stones from its entrance... then, when all the hurried activity and the whispering crowd hastily gathering went quiet... then JESUS gave thanks to God his Father... and He called out with a loud voice: Lazarus... **come here!** *And he that was dead came forth!* Lazarus obeyed!

HE said: I am the route to travel from here... all the way to My Father's house... because JESUS was busy that night; but He wasn't so busy to negligently add any confusion to them... *because He loved them... unto the end*. His students understood, *if it was not so, He would have told us*.

HE said: *I will come again and receive you to Myself... that where I Am, there you may be also*.

JESUS said: **I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.**