

THE “WHOLE” TRUTH

Introduction

- 1) Witnesses in a courtroom promise to “tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth” – the “**whole truth**” means *all the truth* relative to the case under investigation
- 2) The word “whole” means “comprising the full quantity, amount, extent, number, etc., without diminution or exception; entire, full, or total” (Dictionary.com)
- 3) The word “whole” has an important place in the Bible, and highlights important facts that we should understand and uphold as divine truth about God, His word, and our faith

I) “Whole Earth” – Divine Inspiration of Scripture

- A) **Genesis 8:9** – Flood waters were on the face of “the whole earth”
 - 1) Many today dismiss this as myth or as only a local, Mesopotamian flood
- B) To deny the universal flood is to deny the plain affirmations of Scripture (Gen. 7:19-22; Lk. 17:27; 2 Pet. 3:6), and its divine inspiration (God-authored; 2 Tim. 3:16)

II) “Whole Heart” – Total Devotion to God and His Word

- A) **Psalm 119:2, 10, 34, 58, 69, 145; 138:1**
 - 1) We must devote our entire heart, soul, mind (inner man) to God (Matt. 22:37)
 - 2) God knows the thoughts and intents of our hearts (Heb. 4:12)
 - 3) Constant danger of developing a heart of unbelief (Heb. 3:12)
- B) Let us incline (predispose) our heart to love and obey God’s word (Psa. 119:111-112)

III) “Whole Counsel of God” – Balanced and Complete Study of God’s Word

- A) **Acts 20:27** – Paul preached all of God’s truth (not discriminate or pass over)
 - 1) Study and preaching should seek to cover all truth, not just certain parts
 - 2) Some fall into preaching on one subject a majority of the time, or habitually avoid certain subjects (some subjects need special attention, but always seek balance)
- B) Personal goal should be to study and preach all of God’s word (OT and NT)

IV) “Whole Armor of God” – Full Divine Protection and Weaponry

- A) **Ephesians 6:11, 13** – Put on/take up the entire armor that God supplies
 - 1) Many dangers from Satan and his evil temptations (Eph.6:12; 1 Pet. 5:8)
 - 2) Cannot put on some of the armor and expect to succeed – need every part!

V) “Whole Spirit, Soul, and Body” – Our Total Person Sanctified and Preserved

- A) **1 Thessalonians 5:23** – God sanctifies us (sets us apart) to be blameless at His coming
 - 1) As God created us (spirit, soul, body) we are to serve and glorify Him
 - 2) Spirit = *inner man*; soul = *life*; body = *outer man* (“soul” can be used for “spirit”)
- B) We are to use our total person in service to God (Rom. 12:1-2)
 - 1) Some have a moral life/body but unsaved spirit – total person must be sanctified to God

VI) “Whole Duty of Man” – The Supreme Goal of Life

- A) **Ecclesiastes 12:13** – the “whole” of man is to “fear God and keep His commandments”
 - 1) This is life’s simple and supreme goal – why do many people ignore it or fall short?
 - 2) This is the only way to find *eternal* fulfillment and satisfaction

Conclusion

VII) “Whole World” – Jesus Died for Every Sinner

- A) **1 John 2:1-2** – Jesus is our advocate and atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world
 - 1) God desires everyone to be saved (Jn. 3:16; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9)
- B) God loved us when we did not love Him (1 Jn. 4:9-10) – be saved through Jesus today!