

THINK RED INK MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 718 Pie Town New Mexico 2878

Red Letter Edition

### On Truth (Part Two)



When one decides to follow truth and verity in their life one must hold tight to see where it leads. Discouragement can occur when one follows truth and they find that they have been wrong and, in some cases, sinning unknowingly. One soon finds that righteousness is a great part of this journey. As awareness of error increases, thoughts start creeping in that they are themselves hopelessly unrighteous and living very far from truth.

It would be easy to believe it would be right to give up, or give in.

In a manner of speaking, this is true. We must give in to our hopelessness and give up to God's mercy and grace to cover or atone for our sins till that day of forgiveness is fully come. But we MUST fight the good fight of faith.

"But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:" 1 Timothy 6:11-14

What is a good fight? A fight that one wins, of course. We MUST win the battle of sin in our lives.

"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God," 1 John 3:3-10

I know folks that say, nearly pridefully, that they sin every day. They say it loudly that one must sin. "We can't help it," they say. We must consider this, that if we can believe anything about God, we must believe He is fair. I would think He would be the epitome of fairness. Isn't that great day to which we all look forward, the day of reckoning, the last and final judgment, isn't that the day of ultimate fairness? That will be the day that all is put right; where it will happen that the last are first and the first last. Know this, that on *that* day you will be held for the holiness that you COULD perform.

- "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Romans 14:12
- "Who will render to every man according to his deeds:" Romans 2:5
- "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Romans 14:12
- "Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." 1 Corinthians 3:13-15
- "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." 2

Corinthians 5:10

 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7

You will be surprised, on that day, what was possible; what was within your ability...Even with a true heart and a will to please God, one will find quickly that sin is not easily overcome. He will find himself in need of mercy and favor unmerited of a loving God to forgive and cleanse. I would like you read this compilation and combination of the three Gospel accounts of the same story.

"And when he was gone forth into the way, behold a certain ruler came running, and kneeled to him and asked him, saying, Good Master, what good thing shall I do that I may have or inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? There is none good, save one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said Thou knowest the commandments, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I observed and kept from my youth up, what lack I yet?

Then when Jesus heard these things, beholding him, loved him and said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: If thou wilt be perfect, go thy way, and sell all that thou hast, and distribute to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad when he heard this saying, and went away grieved and sorrowful for he had great possessions and was very rich.

And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, He looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of Heaven! And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! And they that heard it said, Who then can be saved? And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."



#### What must I do to inherit eternal life?

"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:22-26

Text Link

"I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth." 1 John 2:21

Next time: "What can one do to insure he is following Truth?"

Friendly,

Don C. Harris

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### NEW PROGRAMS ON THINK RED INK TV:

- **"ONE FOR ISRAEL"** Think Red Ink recently discovered encouraging testimonies from Jews who have found the TRUTH of the New Testament. Often as Christians who have left pagan origins of Christianity, we have expressed anger at 'being lied too'; imagine the dismay of discovering a 2,000 year-old lie.
- Look for testimonies like this on <u>Thinkredink.tv.</u> "The time to favor Zion has come..."



 HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE" by Francis A. Scheffer - The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture is a major Christian cultural and historical documentary film series and book. The book was written by presuppositionalist theologian Francis A. Schaeffer

On occasion, you will find a notification a particular show is playing in ThinkRedInk.tv chat window, or via Facebook post or a Tweet notice. Otherwise, just check in at <u>ThinkRedInk.tv</u> from time to time. Red Letter Edition - LIVE! Encore Programs also play in rotation. *Send me an email to let me know your watching...hearing from ThINKers brightens my day!* 

Regarding *"What happens when we die?"* according to the Scriptures, many have asked where to find the Second Esdras Scriptures which Don read recently on Red Letter Edition. Here's some options:

- Click the link: <u>The New Oxford Annotated Apocrypha (NRSV)</u>: to purchase an Apocrypha with Second Esdras 7:70-140.
- To go to the library or a local bookstore, the ISBN number is: 978-0-19-528886-5.
- To read this section of the Apocrypha online click the link: <u>Second Esdras 7:70-140</u>.

# Hey, Don...

NEW MEXICO THINKER: Just wanted to drop you a line to let you know how much I enjoy listening to your "Think Red Ink: Words of Jesus" program. I watch/listen via KAZQ most afternoons... Although I'm not a Christian, I very much enjoy your perceptive, funny and smart communication style. (And not asking for money is icing on the cake!) Anyway, just wanted you to know someone out there is listening. Keep up the good work.

REPLY FROM DON: Thanks for reaching out. It's nice to know someone is tuning in. As for not being a Christian, "I understand. I almost didn't make it myself." [I have] written several books and though Think Red Ink Ministries no longer sends out print books, we would be happy to send you any audio book or produced material from the ministry (no charge, no postage, no hassle). Just let us know.

NEW MEXICO THINKER: Thanks for your kind reply. Quick question - is Don currently producing content? The televised TRI series appears to be a few years old and I'm wondering if there's something current.

REPLY FROM DON: The Words of Jesus Series (recorded last year) is TRI's most recent broadcast material. The Ministries' recording equipment is somewhat dated. Sadly, when you don't ask for money – people don't give. Not complaining. We choose to proceed with what we can do. The message is evergreen. We have recorded a few YouTube Videos which might be of interest. The YouTube channel is <u>Think Red Ink Ministries</u>. Hope you stay in touch.

QUAKER THINKER: Shalom, ...I watched your interview of Nehemiah Gordon and found it very informative. I was surprised when you said that you are conservative Quaker. Most Quakers today are very liberal. Then when [you] showed a picture of my high school I was even more surprised. My parents were Quaker and very active with the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends General Conference. ...It was our meeting house where the split happened between the Wilberite and Hicksite Quakers split. I have written three books and am working on the fourth and hope the first one to be released the end of this year or beginning of next. Half of my fourth book is going to be dedicated to the information discovered by [other] individuals ... If you have information that could be used I would be happy to discuss it ...God bless.

REPLY FROM DON (via PROXY): Thanks for reaching out. Mr. Harris is dealing with health issues at present. He

has authorized me to respond to you. First, it made him smile to hear from a QUAKER! If you will send your mailing address TRI will send you an MP3 audio book titled, "Think Red Ink". This book details Don's quest for a relationship with YHVH that was logical, Scripturally consistent and honest.

Somethings of interest to you (not in the book):

- During Don's Quaker days in Ohio he received revelation of the necessity of keeping the Sabbath. Thankful to have found a group which was open toward 'continuing revelation' Don was excited to share his Scriptural discovery with the local eldership. He was thoroughly rejected.
- Then, Don received a call from an Elder (being known as the Bible-guy in a Hicksite meeting) with this query, "Isn't there something about God loving and sending something... in the Bible?" Don said, "You mean John 3:16?" 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life." The response? "Yes, that's the one." Don immediately bought a case of Bibles for the meeting.
- One Elder took him aside and directed him to the Barnesville Conservative Quakers.
- Later, Don sought a letter of recommendation from Yellow Springs Meeting "to go on a mission to determine the role of Scripture in the lives of Quakers today." He was rejected.
- Nevertheless, Don spent several years on a mission going from Meeting to Meeting in the United States and Mexico.

I have attached a copy of Don's final Quaker Essay, **"We've Come a Long Way From the Days of Grey**". He will share more with you via his book. Mr. Harris is the <u>author</u> of "The Questions of Jesus" (written while at Barnesville); "Red Letter Questions" (published by Bridge Logos); Revelations On Manna; On Sabbath (in French, Spanish & English); and many other essays and pamphlets.

QUAKER THINKER: I hope Don is feeling better and that it's nothing serious. I received the [Think Red Ink Book Audio] CDs, thank you very much. I listened to them right away and found it very interesting. We do have a lot in common. I thoroughly enjoyed how he portrayed himself as the traveler it made it very unique in doing one's own story.

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TENNESSEE THINKER: Please send me a copy of your CD about what happens when we die.

REPLY FROM DON: I've sent your copy. I hope it will answer your questions about "What happens when we die?" Remember the rich man and Lazarus story is a parable which essentially says we wake up after death the same in our personality and thoughts - the rich man (better-off in this life) attempted to order Lazarus (the lesser) because of a desire to save his brothers.

The parable is not teaching doctrine, i.e., 'rich men go to hell' and 'poor people go to paradise.' An everlasting fire does not equal everlasting torture...fire consumes. When the Bible speaks of eternal punishment it is that the judgment is irreversible; therefore final; therefore eternal. You'll get it.

TENNESSEE THINKER: Thank you for sending me the CD "A matter of life and death." I watched it right away and got out my bible to look up all of the scriptures in the CD to verify and confirm for myself. I enjoyed it and appreciate you helping me to answer some of my questions. My question now is what about cremation. Can you share with me about cremation?

REPLY FROM DON: Great! I'm glad the CD was helpful. Regarding cremation, personally, it is my intention to be buried. I don't think cremation gives the body the honor it deserves (nor does embalming). Bodies are a gift from God, a wondrous and miraculous thing. However, the expense of funerals and lack of planning for our death, causes many to choose cremation versus burial. It is possible to have a simple family funeral and burial with minimal expense – "green" funerals are on the rise. You must be pro-active and let your family know your wishes. Also, a quick burial (48 hours) is required if not embalmed. The Scriptures state that "God buried Moses." However, I have found nothing specific in the Scriptures against cremation.

NEW MEXICO THINKER: Thanks Don, The video dated <u>6/23/19 Father's day (part 2)</u> was good to hear again!! I still have hope. (The carrot is not too far away for me to reach)!!

REPLY FROM DON: Thank you for staying in touch. It is encouraging to hear from listeners. Yes, don't lose hope. Our LORD leads us daily...as we follow our conscience (small nudges to obedience) more things are opened for our instruction and healing.

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## ThINKer's Thoughts...



Alan: Most folks don't care enough about truth to listen it... much less search for 01-20 09:48 🛍 😉 🖬

Most folks don't care enough about truth to listen for it ...

Alan: They are Comfortable.... "Frog in the Frying Pan"

WIKIPEDIA: "The **boiling frog** is a fable describing a frog being slowly boiled alive. The premise is that if a frog is put suddenly into boiling water, it will jump out, but if the frog is put in tepid water which is then brought to a boil slowly, it will not perceive the danger and will be cooked to death. *The story is often used as a metaphor for the inability or unwillingness of people to react to or be aware of sinister threats that arise gradually rather than suddenly.* While some 19th-century experiments suggested that the underlying premise is true if the heating is sufficiently gradual, according to contemporary biologists the premise is false: **a frog that is gradually heated will jump out.**"

....Boy, is that good news.

01-20 09:49 🍿 💽 📢

Good morning Don, now I realize why I hate lying and deception so much. Just read your RLEzine article on "What is Truth" and you hit the nail right on the head. WOW! Thank you for the inspiration you bring to my life, I praise our eternal Father for it is by his Holy Spirit that wisdom and understanding comes. Glad to hear your health has improved somewhat, hope to see you soon. Your brother in TRUTH.

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~ ThINKer in NM



## THINK RED INK MINISTRIES

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