

G R A C E | & | T R U T H

Seeds of Truth - Matthew 13:24-30

I Cry Jesus

Not a moment goes by, where this world won't try
To rattle me out of my peace
And my faith is like sand, slipping right through my hands
And crumbling under my feet

When answers don't come, my heart goes numb
I fall to my knees

And I cry Jesus, when I'm barely holding on
When my hope is all but gone
You are the word that I speak
I cry Jesus, the name above all names
Every minute every day
You are the one that I need
I cry, I cry, Jesus
I cry, I cry, Jesus

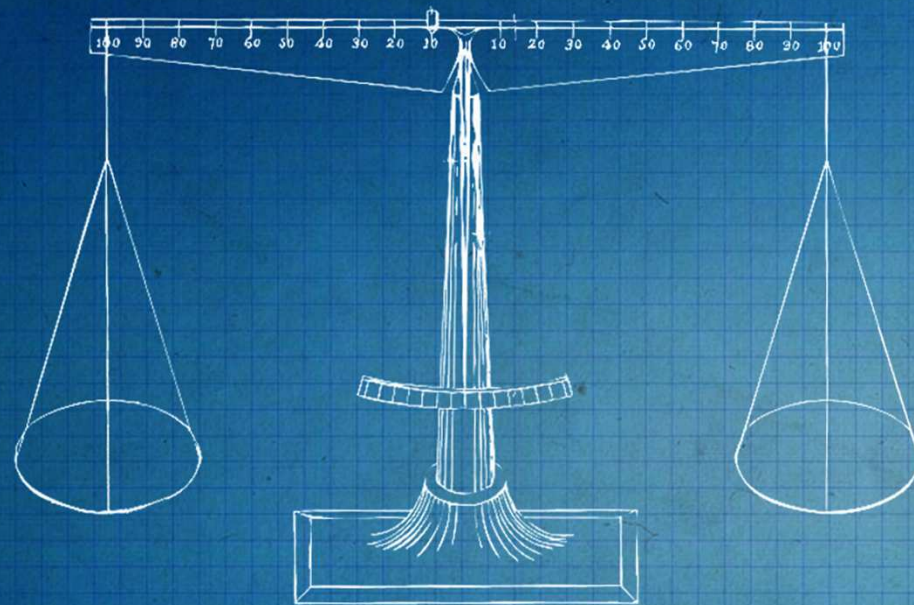
When I've chased all my dreams, and I've made them my king
And I find myself losing the war
In all my fear and unrest, you are my only defense
I'm letting go, the battle is yours

And I cry Jesus, when I'm barely holding on
When my hope is all but gone
You are the word that I speak
I cry Jesus, the name above all names
Every minute every day
You are the one that I need
I cry, I cry, Jesus
I cry, I cry, Jesus

There is power in the name, power that can save
There is power in the name of Jesus (in the name of Jesus)
There is power in the name (power in the name)
Power that can save (power that can save)

When answers don't come, my heart goes numb
I fall to my knees

And I cry Jesus, when I'm barely holding on
When my hope is all but gone
You are the word that I speak
I cry Jesus, the name above all names
Every minute every day
You are the one that I need
I cry, I cry, Jesus
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Seeds of Truth - Matthew 13:24-30

Who you Say I am

Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome Me
I was lost but he brought me in
Oh His Love for me X2

Who the son sets free, oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
In my Father's house, There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am

Free at last He has Ransomed Me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me X2

Who the son sets free, oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
In my Father's house, There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am

I am chosen, Not forsaken
I am who you say I am
You are for me, Not against me
I am who you say I am

Who the son sets free, oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
In my Father's house, There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am

Good Good Father

I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
And You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone

You're a good, good father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know we're all searching
For answers only you provide
Cause you know just what we need
Before we say a word

You're a good, good father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways to us

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into Love, love love

You're a good, good father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

I Lay Me Down

I lay me down **(Echo)** - **4x**

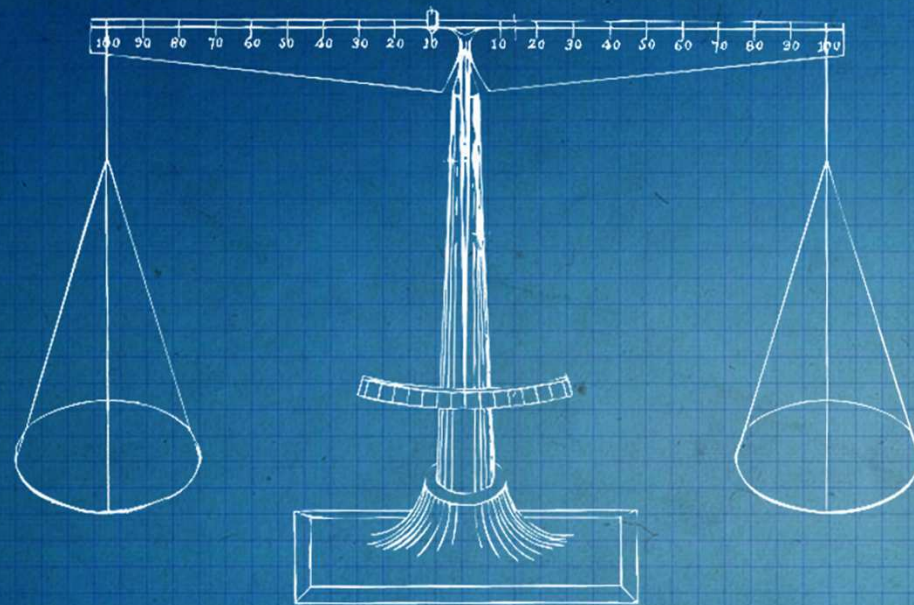
A living sacrifice to You. - **2x**

I lay it down **(Echo)** - **4x**

A pleasing sacrifice to You. - **2x**

I lift You up **(Echo)** - **4x**

And freedom will be the song of my heart. - **2x**



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Seeds of Truth - Matthew 13:24-30

Seeds of Truth

- Over 2,000 years ago, Truth was a seed placed inside the womb of a teenage girl named Mary
- Not by man or the will of man but the will and power of God
- The voice of truth has always been present since creation
 - **John 1:1 NIV**, “In the beginning was the Word (*Truth*), and the Word (*Truth*) was with God, and the Word (*Truth*) was God.”

Seeds of Truth

- Now Truth has a human body
 - **John 1:14 NIV**, “The Word (*Truth*) became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
- Around the age of 33 ½ this Word (*Truth*) began to be tested, challenged, threatened, proven, and ultimately rejected and condemned, but He never ceased to be Truth

Seeds of Truth

- All along the way His truth was sown into the hearts, minds, and lives of those who came in contact with Him
 - Fishermen, tax collectors, Jewish rebels, prostitutes, lepers, the marginalized, a few Religious Leaders, and even Gentiles were touched by Truth
- We find Truth facing at least 6 trials in less than 24 hours without finding any evidence of wrongdoing, nothing could be proven of the charges
 - Some trials were religious, some were criminal – all corrupt
 - Each trial breaking numerous laws in their attempt to silence Truth

Seeds of Truth

- We find Truth before the Governor of Judea called Pilate who has the authority over His life and death, he thinks
 - **John 18:33-38 NIV**, 33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”34 “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”35 “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”36 Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

Seeds of Truth

- We find Truth before the Governor of Judea called Pilate who has the authority over His life and death, he thinks
 - **John 18:33-38 NIV**, 37 “You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” 38 “What is truth?” retorted Pilate.

Seeds of Truth

- Truth was sentenced to die on a criminal cross, yet death could not hold Him
 - **Acts 2:24 NIV**, But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.
- Truth, now alive again, began sowing His Believers as seeds of Truth all over the world starting in Jerusalem, then Judea, then Samaria, and ultimately to the ends of the earth (**Acts 1:8**)
- Truth told us what this time would be like in parables recorded in Matthew 13

Scripture

- **Matthew 13:24-30 NIV**, 24 Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. 26 When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

Scripture

- **Matthew 13:24-30 NIV**, 27 “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ 28 “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ 29 “‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”

Seeds of Truth

- In explaining this parable in **Matthew 13:37-39 NIV**, 37 He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.
- Seeds of Truth were sown as Apostles, teachers, prophets, field workers, merchants, rulers,
- They were sown in great miracles, persecution
- Seeds of Truth are still being sown today

Seeds of Truth

- As a born-again, child of God you are a seed of Truth planted in the Master's field
- The purpose of a seed is to duplicate what is inside
- The inside is protected until it is time for the outside to be broken, to be set aside, so the fruit (*life, truth*) on the inside can immerge and replicate itself into more seeds of truth
- What does this parable tell us this morning?

The Master owns the field, and sows His good seed as He desires

- **Psalms 24:1 NIV**, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.”
- **Genesis 1:31 NIV**, “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”
- What was the purpose of mankind?

The Master owns the field, and sows His good seed as He desires

- **Genesis 1:28 NIV**, 28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”
 - Subdue = bring order to, to organize, to watch over
 - Hebrew word implies that man is to rule over the earth as his subjects, not as a dictator, but a benevolent leader
 - Man is also to walk among and have a relationship with his subjects so that they can provide for man and that man can *"learn"* from them

The Master owns the field, and sows His good seed as He desires

- Adam and Eve were the seeds God planted in the Garden
 - They were to take the truth of the Garden and push it out, sow it, reproducing His truth wherever they went but also learning from it
 - They were to sow seeds of truth wherever they went
 - We find the seed sown by God is always good and will lead to a life of blessing and fruitfulness
 - Greek good = free from defects, beautiful, moral excellence, something that is worthy of admiration

The Master owns the field, and sows His good seed as He desires

- As a born-again child of God, you have the good seed of the Truth of Jesus Christ within you
 - You are to let this seed loose in your life learning from Him, maturing in Him, holding fast to Him
 - And allow God to sow you into the lives/fields of others as seeds of truth
 - Much like Adam and Eve were are to push the knowledge of the Kingdom of God out into all areas He has planted us

Weeds produce weeds, never anything else

- Today this is called agricultural sabotage or agroterrorism
 - The deliberate introduction of a disease agent, either against livestock or into the food chain, to undermine socioeconomic stability and/or generate fear
- It is done in secret so not to be discovered
 - Truth never hides itself, but weeds must be sown in the shadows

Weeds produce weeds, never anything else

- “But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds”
 - While everyone was not paying attention or guarding their field
 - The enemy sowed seeds of destruction starting small and insignificant
- Weeds imitate fruit
 - Weeds competes with fruit
 - Weeds long to replace fruit

Weeds produce weeds, never anything else

- Weeds imitates truth
 - **John 8:31-32 NIV**, 31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”
- Weeds competes with truth
 - **Genesis 3:1 NIV**, “1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Weeds produce weeds, never anything else

- Weeds imitates truth
 - **John 8:31-32 NIV**, 31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”
- Weeds competes with truth
 - **Genesis 3:4-5 NIV**, 4 “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. 5 “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Weeds produce weeds, never anything else

- Weeds will replace truth if given a chance
 - Weeds will always overrun a field if left unchecked
 - **Judges 2:10-12 NIV**, “After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. 11 Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. 12 They forsook the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them.”

Weeds produce weeds, never anything else

- Where can I find unadulterated truth?
 - In only one person, Jesus Christ
 - In only one place, the Bible accurately understood, under the influence of God's Holy Spirit

The struggle with falsehood will continue until harvest time

- The Master instructed them not to pull the weeds up when discovered
 - The weeds were side beside the wheat, growing up together
 - The weeds were almost grown when discovered
 - To pull up the weeds would risk uprooting the wheat as well
 - It was more important to save the good wheat than focus all of their attention on removing the weeds

The struggle with falsehood will continue until harvest time

- Jesus is not saying if there are weeds in our lives, we should leave them alone and not deal with them
 - He is not saying if there are weeds in our church, we should ignore it and just let Jesus handle it
- What I believe Jesus is saying is there will always be weeds growing up around us competing against the truth
- We can focus so much on the weeds we miss the opportunities to bear fruit
- We continue to learn, grow, mature, and always sow the seeds of truth in the lives and life events of others

The struggle with falsehood will continue until harvest time

- **Matthew 13:41-43 NIV**, 41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.
 - Truth wins out in the end
 - It appears like evil is winning now but that is an illusion
 - Weeds of falsehood will be uprooted and thrown into an eternal blazing furnace, remember weeds in this parable are people

The struggle with falsehood will continue until harvest time

- The righteous, those containing the truth will eternally shine in God's Kingdom
- Jesus says, "This is eternally serious so pay attention and make changes now"

Seeds of Truth

- So, what is truth
 - Truth is not
 - Simply whatever works
 - Whatever is understandable
 - Whatever makes you feel good
 - Whatever the majority says is true
 - Simply what you believe truth to be

Seeds of Truth

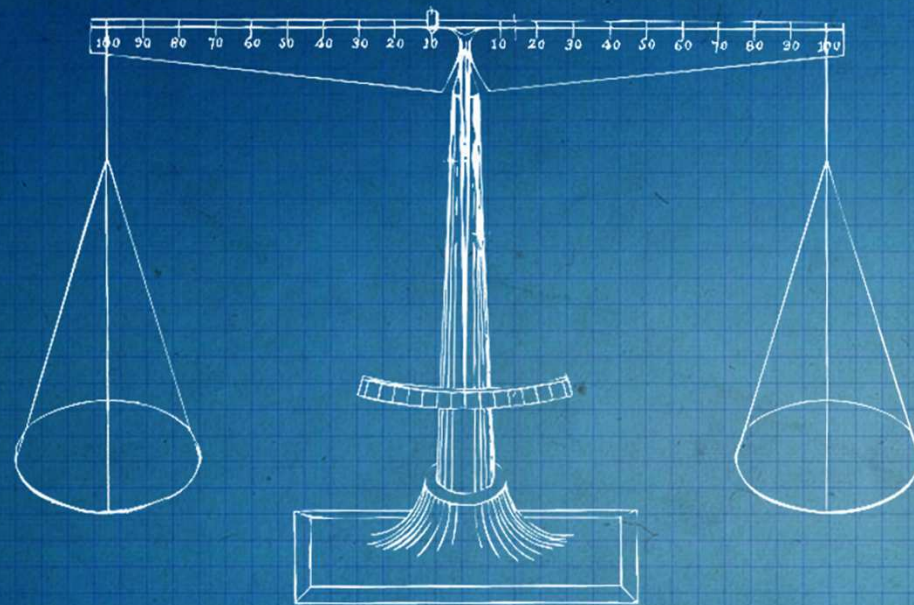
- So, what is truth
 - Is not privately known
 - Truth in Greek means to “un-hide” or “hiding nothing”
 - Truth is always there, always open, and available for all to see, with nothing hidden

Seeds of Truth

- **Romans 1:18-20 NIV**, 18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Seeds of Truth

- Truth is firm, consistent, and lasting, unwavering
 - **Malachi 3:6**, “For I the Lord do not change”
 - **Isaiah 40:8**, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.”
- Truth is the Lord Jesus Christ
 - **John 14:6 NIV**, Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
 - **John 1:14 NIV**, “We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

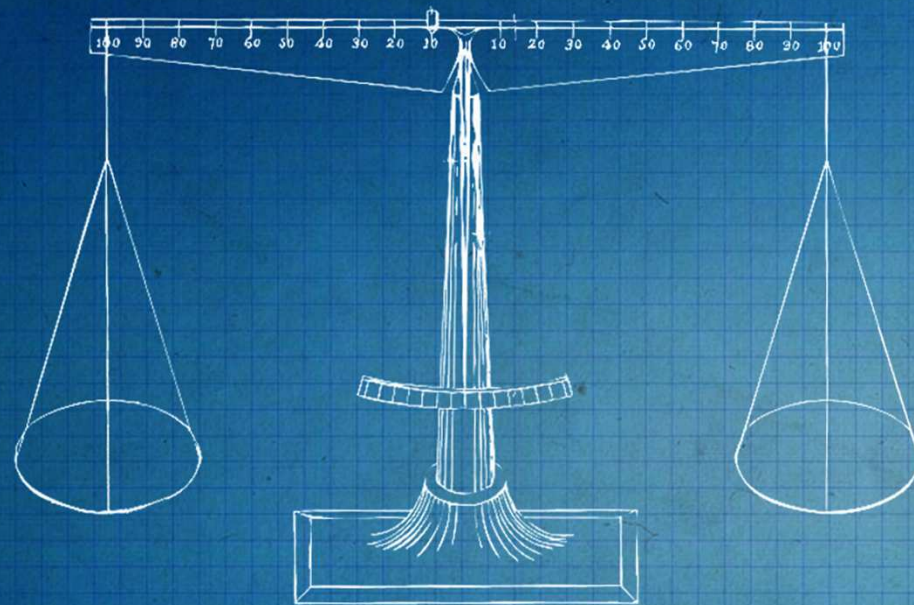


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Announcements for week of 10/02/22

- **Asian Hope Love Offering**, for Cody and Erin Rogers in Cambodia
- **Honoring Those Who Serve Review Meeting**, Wednesday at 6:30, All those who worked or just attended, we need your assessments on how we can make this event better next year, new ideas are welcomed and encouraged, See Joe Melton for more information
- **Wednesday, 7:00, Pizza Night**
- **Baby Shower for Molly and Jason Sanders**, next Sunday, October 9th, immediately after services, bring sandwiches
- **Deacon Planning Meeting**, Sunday, October 9th at 5:00
- **Trunk-n-Treat Organizer**



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