

GOD HEALS THE MIND WITH TRUTH

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1. He is a God of reason and order, and has designed the reasoning process as His method of healing our minds.

Isaiah 1:18. *"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, " Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.*

2. God's reasoning has a simple and logical order.

Isaiah 28:10 *"For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little."*

Illustration: The structure of a building made with blocks. Christ is the cornerstone. His Word is like a level and plumb line. Each block we add in the wall is one of our beliefs about what is true and right. Some blocks are bad/faulty and it is our job to replace them with good blocks/truth.

3. God provides Himself to be the substitute for the missing parts.

Psalms 68:5 *"A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation."*

4. God provides the light that illuminates our minds, so that we can see clearly how to align ourselves with His will and thus receive His blessing.

Ephesians 5:8-21 *"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:*

"Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Illustration: A tuning fork when struck is like God's will and truth being revealed to us. When we listen and align ourselves to it we come into harmony with Him.

5. Renewing our mind is an active process of replacing error (sin) with truth.

Romans 12:2 *“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

In mathematics, a proof is a convincing demonstration that some mathematical statement is necessarily true. Proofs are obtained from deductive reasoning,

Deductive reasoning, also called Deductive logic, is reasoning which constructs or evaluates deductive arguments. Deductive arguments are attempts to show that a conclusion necessarily follows from a set of premises. A deductive argument is valid if the conclusion does follow necessarily from the premises, i.e., if the conclusion must be true provided that the premises are true.

Truth is God’s perspective about His creation.

Gen 3 Satan in the Garden. One way to heaven: John 14:6. *Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

6. God teaches truth in three different ways that correspond to the three persons of the Trinity

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 John 5:7

As God the Father He teaches truth through the Creation.

God’s creation is perfectly designed and ordered. Notwithstanding the corruption of sin, all things are subject to and operate according to His design. *“He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, and stretched out the heaven by His understanding.”* Jeremiah 51:15 *“Consider the work of God; for who can make straight what He has made crooked?”* Ecclesiastes 7:13

He designed the creation to reveal Himself to us in it, and this is so unmistakable that we have no excuse for failing to see Him in it. *“because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”* Roman 1:19-20

He designed us as well, with logic and rationality and the ability to understand and use the physical and moral laws he has built into the universe.

In the day that God created man, He made him in His own image. We are told this in Genesis 5:1, Adam's first task was to name the creatures of the earth (Genesis 2:19-20). This was a job of analysis, requiring great understanding and knowledge about the world and the things in it.

[W]hen Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness. Romans 2:14-15

We can know the truth by simply looking at what He has made, and seeking Him in it. The creation itself testifies to us in the way that it is made: ordered, purposeful, explainable. The normalcy of heterosexual marriage, the blessing of children, the wrongness of stealing and murder, the benefits of private property -- these are not mysteries to anyone who recognizes God's design in the world.

"I am the Lord, and there is no other. I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth; I did not say to the seed of Jacob, "Seek Me in vain." Isaiah 45:18-19

7. God the Son teaches truth through His words and actions.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." "What is truth?" Pilate asked. John 18:37-38

Jesus is the personification of truth, and came to testify of Himself, the Father and the Holy Spirit. By walking the earth as a man, He was able to explain the truth in a way that we could understand.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1-3,14.

Jesus can reveal the perspective of God because He is God, through whom and by whom all things were made. And when He speaks He speaks "as one having authority, and not as the scribes" Mark 7:29.

All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: 'I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world.'" Matthew 13:34-35

The truth is revealed in His teachings in the Bible: the red letters of the scripture. What He taught us was the purpose, meaning and application of the law of God: how things work, and why he made

them as they are. He rarely cited the letter of the law, but explained the principles behind it; through simple analogies to familiar things.

8. God the Holy Spirit teaches truth through direct communication with our mind.

Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39

The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, is the Spirit of Truth. That is His name, and purpose.

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. John 16:7

[W]hen He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. John 16:13

Jesus identifies the ministry of the Holy Spirit as even more important to us than His own. As a human man, His ministry was necessarily limited to the people and places which were physically near him, but the Holy Spirit can directly minister to every believer who welcomes Him. As the scripture says in John 14:17, *"the world cannot receive [the Spirit of Truth], because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."*

But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me." John 15:26-27 ... He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. John 14:26.

The Holy Spirit is our most complete representation of God, because He not only dwells in us, but He testifies of Jesus' earthly ministry and teaching and everything that He hears from the Father.

So, summarizing, we have three testimonies of the truth:

1. The creation itself and all that we can read and learn from the natural order of things,
2. The teachings of Jesus and indeed of the whole Bible, and
3. The prompting and guidance of the Holy Spirit, which dwells within us when we seek to abide in Him.

9. Actively seeking and embracing truth brings us into harmony with God

*Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy **mind**. Matthew 22:37.*

10. No one is beyond the power of God's healing touch.

Nebuchadnezzar...was driven away from mankind. He ate grass like an ox, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird...But at the end of those days I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven, and my sanity was restored to me. Then I praised the Most High, and I honored and glorified Him who lives forever. Daniel 5: 33-34.