

The University of Truth

by J. W. Jepson

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Picture yourself entering a massive educational complex. You are impressed by the words over the main entrance: "The University Of Truth." You will soon realize that this is not truth about technology and other human endeavors. It is real truth, absolute truth, revealed truth. Yes, there is real truth. Ask the person who asserts that truth does not exist: "Is that true?" The assertion is self-contradictory and self-refuting.

Although it is perfectly reasonable and completely factual, the curriculum of the University Of Truth was not developed by human reasoning, research and experimentation. It came by the only means absolute truth can be known: Divine revelation.

That revelation is embodied in two media: in writing (The Scriptures), and in person (Jesus Christ). Each perfectly matches the other and both perfectly match objective reality. Jesus Christ is the living Word of God. He declared, "I am ... the truth" (John 14:6). He also declared, "The Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35). He said to the Father, "Your word is truth" (John 17:17). Any deviation from the Word of God, written and living, is a deviation from objective reality, with all the notorious consequences.

Students enter a university in order to learn; so we enter the University Of Truth. Jesus Christ is both the teacher and the curriculum. He invites all, "Come to me ... learn from me" (Matthew 11:28, 29). We learn so we can do and so we can become.

The Holy Spirit is our guide and tutor. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth (John 16:13). The Holy Spirit revealed to its authors the content of The Scriptures, including every word Jesus spoke that needed to be recorded. Also, the Holy Spirit illuminates the word to us, showing us how it applies personally and practically. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit "will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you" (John 16:14). This is why it is important that believers be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).

So with the Holy Spirit as your guide, you explore the hallways of the University. You notice that the classrooms are identified by subject: God; Jesus Christ; The Holy Spirit; Prayer; Marriage; The Church; Prophecy, among others. On each door is a synopsis of the teaching content in each room, consisting of several relevant Bible passages.

One could memorize only what is on each door and grasp the basics of each subject. In fact, that is about as far as many believers go. They attend church somewhat regularly, read the Bible when they have time, take in Christian media, pray their usual prayers, and are content with their elementary knowledge of the truth. It is enough to survive but not to thrive.

Now, picture yourself stopping at the door of a room with a subject of particular personal interest. Maybe it is Marriage, or Divine Healing, or Evangelism. As you are reading the synopsis, the Guide suddenly opens the door and says emphatically, "Explore this room!"

The Guide leads you inside. Immediately you are breathtaken at the magnitude and richness of truth in its fullness and relevance. Delighted, eager, you want to stay and explore. But the Guide, the Holy Spirit, leads you on. Reluctantly you step out of the room for the moment and move on to the other rooms, eagerly anticipating what is behind each door as the Holy Spirit opens it, resolved to return, learn, and "grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

You feel like a prospector who just discovered the "mother lode." The quest is over, but the exploration has just begun! You are no longer satisfied with an average knowledge of the truth. You are thirsty to know Christ in His fullness by His Spirit through His word. So you eagerly enroll for a lifetime of learning and growth as you, like Mary, sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to His word (Luke 10:39).

Perhaps you are still among those who are wandering around outside, confused, searching. Remember Jesus' personal invitation: "Come to me ... learn from me." He is the truth. To find the truth, you must come to Jesus. Come to Him now. He is waiting for you.