

THE MIGHT OF THE LIGHT

Deal In Truth

- I. **Ephesians 4:11-21-The fivefold ministry gifts are gifts from Jesus to the church and these gifts are given so that saints will be perfected so that they can do the work of the ministry so that the body will be edified**
 - A. Without the fivefold ministry gifts the saints won't be perfected and the body won't be edified
 1. Without a connection with the fivefold ministry gifts that God has hooked you up with you won't be perfected, you won't fulfill the work of the ministry or the assignment God has for your life and the body won't be edified and you won't be fulfilled because your fulfillment in life comes from doing what the father told you to do and you won't be equipped to do that without these gifts-John 4:34
 2. You fulfilling the assignment on your life is directly related to these divine connections with the fivefold ministry gifts
 3. It's through these gifts that you get furnished and equipped and strengthened and made sound to do the work of the ministry
 - a. **Perfecting**-Complete furnishing and equipping, strengthen, complete, make one what he ought to be, to be sound
 - b. **These gifts don't equip you with love our faith God already did that; they equip you with truth**
 4. He didn't give these gifts to do the work of the ministry because that's what the saints are for
 - a. A problem that fivefold ministry gifts have is they try to do the work of the ministry for the saints and while they are doing the work of the ministry that the saints should be doing they aren't on their knees praying and hearing from God so when the saints gather they aren't being perfected because they fivefold ministry gifts haven't heard from God and therefore the saints are not equipped for the work of ministry and the body isn't edified
 - b. The fivefold ministries work of the ministry is perfecting the saints – That's their work
 5. **The end goal is maturity – God is as much interested in the growth and maturity of his body as he is in the expansion of his body (but the way you here most believers talk the only thing that matters seeing the lost saved and yet this is as much as Mark 16:15)**
 - a. These gifts are to equip the saints for service and edify the body
 - 1) *CEV-So that his people would learn to serve and his body would grow strong*
 - 2) *VOICE-So that God's people would be thoroughly equipped to minister and build up the body of the Anointed One*
 - 3) *ERV-Christ gave these gifts to prepare God's holy people for the work of serving, to make the body stronger*

- 4) *PHILIPS- His gifts were made that Christians might be properly equipped for their service that the whole body might be built up*
 - b. **Edifying**-Act of one who promotes another's growth in Christian wisdom, piety, happiness, holiness, building up
 - c. **Perfect man**-Full grown, adult, full age, mature, consummate human integrity and virtue
 - 1) *13 AMP-That we might arrive at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection*
- B. One thing that marks spiritual immaturity is that you are easily deceived, easily dooped, and tricked to believe something not true
1. **Children**-Untaught, unskilled, infant, little child – Deception and immaturity-people who are spiritual immature are easily deceived
 2. **Spiritual immaturity lacks perspective of reality; The more mature you become the greater perspective you gain of reality and truth**
 - a. Luke 15-The prodigal son was spiritually immature and it was connected to his lack of perspective of reality; he thought he'd be better off away from his father and he'd have more fun away from his father and he lacked perspective of reality and the truth
 - b. 1 Corinthians 3-They were immature and that was made evident by their strife, but the reason they were immature was because they lacked perspective of reality/truth and the reality they couldn't see was that God gives the increase and the minister is nothing without God they didn't see that they didn't need to be glorying in individual men because all these gifts are theirs and they belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God
 3. Spiritually immature people are easily deceived and tossed from one lie to the other because they lack perspective of reality or the truth so when a lie comes that look true they take it
- C. Growing up into Jesus, is to grow up in the truth-John 14:6
1. **Growing up and maturing has to do with dealing in truth and in reality**
 - a. **Speaking the truth**-Professing the truth, Loving the truth, truthful
 - b. **Grow Up**-Inward Christian growth
 2. If the five fold ministry gifts will step up and help the body grow in truth the enemy won't be able to deceive them and lead them astray
 - a. **To do that you the five fold ministry gifts have to get revelation from God and see the truth and you don't get that running around on your feet, you get that on your knees**
 - b. What you have right now in the body is the blind (saints) trying lead the blind world; it doesn't work
- II. **Speaking the truth in love, dealing in truth is how we won't be deceived and caught and led astray by the enemy and tossed to and fro**

- A. Rather than being tossed to and fro and deceived deal in truth and you won't be deceived
 - 1. Ephesians 4:11-15-How would you avoid being swallowed up in darkness and led astray and deceived? Speak the truth, deal in truth
- B. 3 John 4-We are to conduct our lives and regulate our lives in the truth and if we do we won't be led astray
 - 1. We **Deal** in truth-To deal in, to have to do with, to be engaged in, to practice, Behave, To conduct oneself
 - a. *VOICE-The greatest joy in my life is hearing how my children are walking in the truth; GNT- Nothing makes me happier than to hear that my children live in the truth; NLV-I can have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth*
 - 2. The thing that gives God the greatest joy is when his children are dealing in truth, conducting and regulating their lives in the truth
 - a. **Proverbs 12:22-Lying lips are abomination to the Lord, but they that deal truly are his delight**
 - 3. Deal in truth
 - a. *Leviticus 19:11-Neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.*
 - b. *Joshua 2:14, Genesis 24:49, 47:29-That we deal kindly and truly with you*
 - c. *Exodus 8:28-Let not Pharaoh deal deceitfully any more in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD.*
 - d. *Jeremiah 6:13, 8:10-For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.*
 - e. *Revelation 22:15-[But] without are the dogs and those who practice sorceries (magic arts) and impurity [the lewd, adulterers] and the murderers and idolaters and everyone who loves and deals in falsehood (untruth, error, deception, cheating).*
 - f. *Malachi 2:16-Take heed that you deal not treacherously (deceitfully)*
- C. Ephesians 4:17-25-The enemy wants to swallow you up in darkness and his strategy to do that is to get you to deal in lies
 - 1. 17-Walk-They are not dealing in truth, regulating their life and conducting their life according to the truth, but rather lies and falsehood
 - 2. 18-They are being cut off from something God wants them to have because they are dealing in lies and not the truth
 - 3. 18-Why are they ignorant? Why do they lack light? Why do they lack truth? They are ignorant because of the blindness (covering callus, stubbornness, hardness) of the heart, they hardened their heart to the truth

4. 22-Deception is in this because these lusts are painting a pictorial fantasy about the future and how good it's going to be that is not true
5. **21,25-We need to deal in truth and not lies and reject all falsity and be done with it**
6. **The way to overcome the spirit of error, the deceiver himself is to always deal in truth-1 John 4:6**

III. To win this fight you have to deal in truth; Always deal in truth

- A. We got some truth regarding this land and these giants and if they are going to be free and walk in victory then they must deal in truth
 1. The truth is God's going to send an angel before us and drive them out and that is our land
 - a. Exodus 33:1-3-I will send an angel before you, I WILL drive out the giants
 - b. Numbers 13:2-Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, WHICH I GIVE unto the Children of Israel
- B. ***Once you get the truth, once you have the truth, once you see the truth don't deal in anything else
 1. The strategy of the enemy is to get you deal in falsehood and lies and he wants to distract away from the truth
 - a. **They start talking about the walls and the giants and how they can't go in and as they do that are not dealing in truth**
 2. They brought up an **evil report** (defamation-the malicious uttering of a falsehood which tends to destroy one's good name)
 - a. 28-29-What does this have to do with the truth? The people are strong, they cities are walled and inhabited by giants, SO?
 - b. 31-LIE: They are not stronger than God's people because God is with them
 - c. 31-What does their strength have to do with it? They don't have to drive them out
 - d. 32-What does them eating up the inhabitants have to do with anything? Are they going to eat up God?
 - e. 32-They are men of great stature, So? Greater than God?
 - f. 33-You saw giants, so? Are they bigger than God?
 - g. 33-LIE: They were not grasshoppers in the sight of those giants; this is a lie-Joshua 2:9
 - h. 14:2-3-LIES-God didn't bring them their to die and it's not better in Egypt
 3. They are so far away from the truth: It's our Land God will drive them out
 - a. They are not dealing in truth, they are covered in darkness and they are deceived and they fall short of what God wanted for them
- C. Romans 4:17-21, 3:4-The way that you deal in truth is you let God be true and every thing else be a lie-Romans 3:4
 1. 17,18-He's already got the truth so he's not going to deal in lies and falsehood

2. 19-His body and Sarah's body are lying to him telling him they can't have what God said they would have and he won't deal in falsehood
 - a. 17-He's calling things that be not as though they were and dealing in truth
 - b. 19-He's letting God be true and their bodies be a liar
3. **Why is he not staggering? Why is he not wavering? Why is he not in unbelief? He staggered not because he consider not, he was strong in faith because he considered not**
 - a. The enemy is trying to get him to deal in lies by getting him to consider something contrary to the truth, but Abraham just won't do it
 - b. **Considering things contrary to the truth is going to eat away at your faith until you no longer have any and that means you lose the faith fight and don't possess what God promised you**
4. **If you are considering stuff you shouldn't be considering it shows you that your faith is weak**
 - a. **So the measure for your faith is not what you can quote like a parrot or the face you can put on in front of your Christian friends, but rather how much stuff did you consider and think about today that you shouldn't have**
 - b. **Strong faith won't consider anything that contradicts the Word**
 - 1) **2 Corinthians 4:18-Faith doesn't consider or pay attention to what it sees, how it feels, or anything that contradicts the truth**
5. **You get to this fully persuaded faith place of total trust and total rest by considering not; You consider not long enough and you're going to get fully persuaded and that's the place where nothing moves you, no report, no thought, no feeling, no circumstance, no devil**

D. Truth is simple; lies are complicated

1. The simplicity of the truth and dealing in truth-Numbers 13:30, 14:7-9
 - a. Joshua and Caleb are dealing in truth and it's simple
 - b. To the rest it's complicated and confusing and dark because they are dealing in lies (33-You look like grasshoppers to them)
2. **Whenever stuff starts getting complicated you are off of the truth**
 - a. **The enemy likes to complicate it and your flesh will indulge him, but truth is never complicated**
 - b. Genesis 3-This is real simple, he said don't eat it or you'll die; the enemy complicated it
3. **John 3:21(AMP)-Practice the truth; Take the emotions out of it and let truth govern your life**
 - a. *Psalm 86:11-Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk (proceed, live, manner of life) in thy truth:*

IV. Dealing in truth will keep you free and preserve you and keep you protected from deception

A. Psalm 57:3-God will send his truth to deliver you

1. 3-The enemy wants to swallow you up in these lies

- a. Reproach-Taunt, rail, upbraid, shaming, abusive, foul mouthed language
- b. Slander-A false tale maliciously uttered
- 2. 3-God delivers you from that by sending you His truth
 - a. If you'll deal in the truth you can overcome the one who wants to swallow you up
- 3. 4-My soul is among the lions
 - a. **My soul**-Activity of the mind, emotions, will – We are talking about the inner man
 - b. 1 Peter 5:8-The is like a roaring lion and his attack is on your thinking and believing
 - c. Teeth are spears and arrows and their tongue a sharp sword-This is a war of words and thoughts and beliefs and lies and truth
- 4. 6-They have prepared a net for my steps – This is the deception, the trickery they want it to look safe when it's not
- 5. **7-Your heart is fixed on what? On the truth that God sent me**
 - a. Fixed-Steadfast, stable, established firmly, enduring
- 6. 8-Many times you have been unaware of the truth so your inner man has to wake up to it
- 7. 10-He's singing and giving thanks for the greatness of God's mercy and truth
- B. The truth will preserve you and protect you and sustain you
 - 1. Preserve-Guard, **keep**-To preserve from falling or danger; to protect, to guard or to sustain, to take care of
 - 2. *Psalm 40:11-Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy loving kindness and thy truth continually preserve me.*
 - 3. *Psalm 61:7-He shall abide before God forever: O prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him.*
 - 4. *Psalm 91:4-He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.*
 - 5. *Psalm 45:4-And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness;*

V. It is a war of attrition with the enemy

- A. 1 Peter 5:8-9-Resist steadfast; This reveals that resisting one time is not enough; you're going to have to resist and then you're going to have to resist again and then you're going to have to resist again and that's where the steadfast part comes in
 - 1. Steadfast-Strong, firm, immovable, solid, hard, stand immovable, stand firm, to be of a steadfast mind, one who does not waver, not fickle, not changeable, not easily moved, not fluctuating, undeviating
 - a. You're not supposed to be fickle and fluctuating and deviating in your resisting him
 - 2. Hebrews 6:12-Patience-Constancy, endurance --- Why would you have to have patience with your faith? Because apparently you have an enemy that is going to be constant in his attack against you

3. With a whole lot of Christians the devil is not successful on the first time he approaches them, to tempt them to pressure them, to influence them, but he is successful way too often on the 30th time or the 60th time or the 90th time and he will come back again and again and again and God's not going to make him stop because you are to resist him and if he comes 100 times then you resist him 100 times; you never stop resisting him and when you stopped resisting him is where you fell
 4. We must not be surprised when the enemy comes back again and again
- B. Acts 10:38-The enemy will come and just push you and press you and this war is a war of attrition and his plan is to wear you down until you give in and give up, because the moment you stop resisting, is the moment you start losing
1. Judges 14:12-20
 - a. **17-She cried before him for 7 days and this is insight into how the devil works; what's he trying to do? Wear him down and get him so frazzled and tired so how do you make this pressure stop you give in**
 - 1) **He gave in because she lay sore upon him; He's feeling pressure and he gave in**
 - 2) **Lay sore-Press**
 - b. She ran and told the people what it meant and he got mad and battles ensued and it cost him but it didn't cost him his life and anointing; He should have learned his lesson about philistine women and giving in when somebody is pushing on him but if you don't learn lesson it's going to come up again and next time it can cost you too much, it can cost you everything
 2. Judges 16:15
 - a. 15-Three times whatever he told her she ran straight and told his enemies; Wake up, get a clue;
 - b. 16-She pressed him daily and his soul was vexed to death; Yet he just keeps coming back for more
 - c. 17-This time it cost him his ministry and anointing
 - d. Sampson was anointed of God and by that anointing he defeated the enemy and killed 1000 philistines with the jawbone of a donkey; armies couldn't defeat him, city walls couldn't hold him in, thousands of people with spears and swords could not take Sampson out and yet the devil took him out with Delilah, but Delilah didn't defeat Sampson and she couldn't destroy Sampson herself and neither could the enemy; Sampson destroyed Sampson by giving in, yielding to the enemy who in this case was speaking through Delilah
 3. **The enemy pushes and pressures and nags and keeps on and won't shut up and just keeps on and on and there's no peace in it and it's just vexation and it's trying to push you to some action and response, to give in or to give up**

- a. **What is most frustrating to the devil is consistency? You might resist him once and his attitude is usually indifferent to that because he just thinks to himself, "whatever I'll be back," but frustration comes to him when he begins to realize they're not changing**
 - b. **Patience is the enemy's greatest frustration**
- C. Romans 6:6-11-Dead to sin, dead to the devil, dead to deception
- 1. Reckon yourself dead to sin
 - a. **Sampson had problems with Delilah, he was not dead to her, her charms worked all to well on him, but if you took Delilah and gave her a new makeover and got her new clothes and parade her in front of a casket of a dead man he's not going to have any problem with her; The dead man will have no response at all to her seductiveness and she can whisper in his ear all year and she's going to get no response**
 - b. When the devil pushes you and prods you and it should be like he's talking to a dead man
 - 2. **11-If you felt dead always you wouldn't have to count yourself dead**
 - a. You have a body and you will have feelings but when you do slam your flesh back into the casket and say you're dead man, you're dead to getting mad and pitching and fit and getting frustrated so lay down dead man
 - b. **You talk about something that is frustrating to demons and to the devil is when they go back to the devil after 6 months with you and the devil says what about it and they say sorry boss when can't get through to him, it's like talking to a dead man, nothing I do seems to work on this guy**