

Torah Teachings

Biblical Definitions: “Truth”

Source: “*Messiah – Volume 1 – Understanding His Life and Teachings In Hebraic Context*” by Avi Ben Mordechai, pages 87-89.

NOTE: I have added my comments in square brackets as such [].

We have all heard definitions given for different words written in the Scriptures. The Scriptures are our best source for defining its own words. In this Torah teaching, we will be looking at the word “*Truth*.”

Throughout this study, you will notice the use of Hebrew names and terms with the English term noted. The purpose of this is to expose you to some Hebrew names and terms to help you down the road to start thinking like a Hebrew. After all, our Scriptures were originally written in Hebrew and some parts in Aramaic. Recently, a scroll of the book of Mattityahu (Matthew) was discovered to be written in Hebrew. I have also been told that other New Covenant/Testament books have been discovered that were written in Hebrew. They are located in a hostile country and some people are looking for a way to bring them out. It is my opinion that all the Scriptures were originally written in Hebrew and then translated to Greek and other languages.

TRUTH

Not only is the Law (the Torah) a source of light but it is also the L-rd’s [Yeshua’s] embodiment of truth. All which is true, right, good, holy, and pure in this world is measured by the greatest truth that G-d [Yahweh] has displayed: Torah. Again, in our *Tanakh* [Old Covenant/Testament] dictionary we find this sampling of the biblical definition of truth:

*Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and **Thy law is truth**.* (Mizmor [Psalm] 119:142) [Emphasis mine]

*The **law of truth** was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.* (Malachi 2:6, KJV) [Emphasis mine]

Again, in Hebrew, the word “law” used in these passages is Torah:

*(HaMelech [King] David said to Shlomo [Solomon]) ... keep the charge of the Lord your God, to **walk** in His ways, to **keep** His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, **according to what is written in the law of Moses**, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn, so that the Lord may carry out His promise which He spoke concerning me, saying, “*If your sons are careful of their way, to **walk** before Me **in truth** with all their heart and**

with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.” (Melechim Aleph [1 Kings] 2:3-4) [Emphasis mine]

*And do not take the **word of truth** utterly out of my mouth, For I **wait for Thine ordinances**. So I will **keep Thy law** continually, forever and ever.* (Mizmor [Psalm] 119:43-44) [Emphasis mine]

*I will bow down toward Thy holy temple, and **give thanks** to Thy name for Thy lovingkindness and **Thy truth**; for Thou hast **magnified Thy word** according to all Thy name.* (Mizmor [Psalm] 138:2) [Emphasis mine]

*Thou art near, O Lord, and all **Thy commandments are truth**.* (Mizmor [Psalm] 119:151) [Emphasis mine]

Established on the everlasting premise that the Moasic Torah of the L-rd [Master] is truth, HaMashiach [the Messiah] Y’shua [Yeshua/Jesus] prayed to His Father on behalf of His “students”;

*Sanctify them in the truth; **Thy word is truth**.* (Yochanan [John] 17:17) [Emphasis mine]

If the Father answered Y’shua’s [Yeshua’s/Jesus’] request, and I believe He did, then it means we who choose to receive Y’shua [Yeshua/Jesus] as HaMashiach [the Messiah] will also receive the Torah which in turn sanctifies us and sets us apart in the world. **And what is the Torah? It is the Word. And what is the “Word”? It is truth. And what is “Truth”? It is the Torah!** With this understanding the teachings of Y’shua [Yeshua/Jesus] come alive [Emphasis mine]:

*Pilate therefore said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “**You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I come into the world, to bear witness to the truth** (Moasic Torah). **Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice**.” Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?” (Yochanan [John] 18:37-38) [Emphasis mine]*

*Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “**If you abide in My word** (Moasic Torah), **then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free**,” (Yochanan [John] 8:31-32) [Emphasis mine]*

Just in case you missed it, notice that Y’shua [Yeshua/Jesus] also defined the word freedom for us when He said, “**and the truth shall make you free**.” Since we know Torah is truth then we know that Torah observance is true freedom; anything else is bondage. This explains Sha’ul’s [Paul’s] terminology in Galatians 5:1 which is a teaching on Yochanan [John] 8:31-32 and Mizmor [Psalm] 119:32, 45. [Emphasis mine]

Finally from the learned Torah scholars of ancient Judaism we have this sampling on the link between Torah and truth:

...[Thereupon] he said unto me: “Listen attentively [to] what you [are about to] hear.” And I heard them say: “Moses and his Torah are truth....” (Baba Bathra 74a)

R. Johanan said to him...He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, prosperity and honour. “Truth” is Torah, for it is said: Buy the truth and sell it not. (Berechoth 5b and Mishle (Proverbs) 23:23. Also see Avodah Zerah 4b.)

I hope this sheds some light upon the Biblical definition of “Truth” compared to what man has defined “Truth” to be. It makes a big difference when we use the Bible as our dictionary. Especially the Old Covenant/Testament since the New Covenant/Testament did not exist at the time Yeshua/Jesus was here.

Shalom,

One Crying In The Wilderness



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