

The Way to the Truth & Life – a snapshot

Scientists over the centuries have plumbed the mysteries of God's creation in an attempt to explain what they see. Indeed, all those early scientific pioneers founded their search on their belief in a Creator God whose creation was and is logical, and so they believed it possible to predict the outcomes of observed events.

And so we have Boyle's Laws of Thermodynamics and Ohm's Laws of Electricity to name but two of the early scientific pioneers. Or perhaps we should call them scientific "Truths".

The spiritual laws or Truths relating to our eternal destiny and spelled out in God's Word, the Bible, are no less true. Indeed there are many pointers to the Truth in that extraordinary book, but the ones listed below are, for me, the most direct and specific. I have given the whole passage references for the context but have quoted only the key verses below (quotes from the NIV).

They are:

John 1: v1-14:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it...

...He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him...

...Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

John 3: v1-18

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. ...

... Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe* stands condemned already because he has not believed* in the name of God's one and only Son. ..."*

* The word "believes" in the original Greek means "to be committed to" or "to be totally surrendered to". It is not mere intellectual assent which the English word "believes" suggests.

Matthew 7: v13-14

Jesus said, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it..."

John 10: v1-18

"... I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture..."

John 14: v1-21

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me..."

But don't take my word for it! Please read each passage for yourself to confirm that I haven't taken anything out of context – better still, read the whole of John's Gospel.

And lest you propose discarding the above as 'quaint folklore' or 'the stuff of myth and legend', consider the trials that the Apostle Paul went through to bring us this message – he and millions of others down through the past 20 centuries, as well as the hundreds of thousands if not millions of believers facing persecution and even death for their faith today. They represent roughly two thirds of the human race that have walked this planet since Jesus did 2000 years ago. Paul wrote:

"I have travelled many weary miles. I have faced danger from flooded rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the stormy seas.

And I have faced danger from men who claim to be Christians but are not. I have lived with weariness and pain and sleepless nights. Often I have been hungry and thirsty and have gone without food. Often I have shivered with cold, without enough clothing to keep me warm..." (2 Corinthians 11:26-28 NLT)

Many have suffered greatly that we might have this message today. You have this life to choose the Truth (Jesus) and eternal life with Him; after death it will be too late. It is an option that doesn't bear thinking about.

For more about this question of choices, please see my article entitled "How can a loving God send good people to hell?" on my [website](http://www.hoare.co.za/important.htm) (at www.hoare.co.za/important.htm).