

KNIGHTS FOR CHRIST



The ARMOR *of* GOD

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:11

Bill Clinton

24 VIRTUES OF A GODLY MAN

JESUS IS THE

WAY

THE

Truth



AND THE LIFE...

THE VIRTUE OF TRUTH

- I HAVE CHOSEN THE WAY OF TRUTH; I HAVE SET MY HEART ON YOUR LAWS. I HOLD FAST TO YOUR STATUTES, O LORD. DO NOT LET ME BE PUT TO SHAME. I RUN IN THE PATH OF YOUR COMMANDS, FOR YOU HAVE SET MY HEART FREE. —PSALM 119:30-32
- TEST ME, O LORD, AND TRY ME, EXAMINE MY HEART AND MY MIND; FOR YOUR LOVE IS EVER BEFORE ME, AND I WALK CONTINUALLY IN YOUR TRUTH. I DO NOT SIT WITH DECEITFUL MEN, NOR DO I CONSORT WITH HYPOCRITES; I ABHOR THE ASSEMBLY OF EVILDOERS AND REFUSE TO SIT WITH THE WICKED. I WASH MY HANDS IN INNOCENCE, AND GO ABOUT YOUR ALTAR, O LORD. —PSALM 26:2-6

- BEING TRUTHFUL MEANS BEING REAL AND HONEST WITH THE FACTS, BUT IT ALSO MEANS LIVING IN A WAY WHERE WHAT YOU KNOW TO BE TRUE INFLUENCES YOUR DAILY ACTIONS. A MAN OF GOD WHO HAS NOT YET FULLY RESOLVED THAT HE WILL SPEAK ONLY THE TRUTH WILL STUMBLE. THIS IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE MAN OF GOD. TRUTH HAS TO BE THE STANDARD WE LIVE BY. SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME, SOMEHOW, PART OF HIS LIFE WILL CRUMBLE WITHOUT HOLDING TO THE VIRTUE OF TRUTH. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES:

- A TRUTHFUL WITNESS GIVES HONEST TESTIMONY, BUT A FALSE WITNESS TELLS LIES (PROVERBS 12:17).
- THE LORD DETESTS LYING LIPS, BUT HE DELIGHTS IN MEN WHO ARE TRUTHFUL (PROVERBS 12:22).
- A TRUTHFUL WITNESS DOES NOT DECEIVE, BUT A FALSE WITNESS POURS OUT LIES (PROVERBS 14:5).
- A TRUTHFUL WITNESS SAVES LIVES, BUT A FALSE WITNESS IS DECEITFUL (PROVERBS 14:25).

- WHEN DESCRIBING SPIRITUAL ARMOR, THE APOSTLE PAUL USES THE WARRIOR'S BELT TO SIGNIFY TRUTH: "STAND FIRM THEN, WITH THE BELT OF TRUTH BUCKLED AROUND YOUR WAIST" (EPHESIANS 6:14). THINK ABOUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BELT AS PART OF A KNIGHT'S ARMOR. WE ARE GOING TO LOOK AT THE ASPECT OF TRUTH AS A WARRIOR. IF YOU ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF A SWORD BATTLE AND YOUR BELT FALLS DOWN, THREE THINGS CAN HAPPEN:

- (1) YOU LOSE YOUR BACKUP WEAPONS (MOST KNIGHTS STRAPPED DAGGERS TO THEIR WEAPON BELT). THIS RELATES TO THE SPIRITUAL WARRIOR AS IT IS THE TRUTH THAT GIVES US ACCESS TO ALL THE WEAPONS IN OUR ARSENAL. LOVE, PRAYER, SCRIPTURE, SERVICE, AND OTHER WEAPONS ARE LOST IF WE ARE DRAWN INTO LIVING IN THE SHADOW OF LIES. WE MIGHT TRY TO REACH FOR THE WEAPONS OF GOD BUT WE WILL FIND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN LOST TO US BECAUSE THE TRUTH IS WHAT BINDS THESE WEAPONS TO US AND GIVES US THE ACCESS TO USE THEM AS REQUIRED.

- (2) YOU LOSE FOCUS AS YOUR CLOTHING FLIES TO THE WIND. TO DO BATTLE AS A KNIGHT FOR CHRIST REQUIRES GREAT FOCUS AND CONCENTRATION OF HEART. A LOSS OF THE VIRTUE OF TRUTH STRIPS US SPIRITUALLY OF THE FOCUS WE NEED TO EFFECTIVELY BATTLE THE ENEMY OF OUR SOULS. A DISTRACTED WARRIOR WILL NOT LAST LONG IN THE BATTLE. WHEN WE LIVE IN THE MIDST OF LIES, WE ARE DISTRACTED FROM THE ENEMY WHO IS IN FRONT OF US AND WE ARE OPEN TO A FATAL ATTACK. BEING TRUTH BEARERS HELPS US TO KEEP OUR FOCUS CLEAR AND OUR BATTLE.

- (3) YOU CANNOT MOVE AS FAST AND BE AS AGILE AS YOU COULD BE IF YOUR BELT AND CLOTHING ARE SECURE.
- THE TRUTH MAKES YOU SURE-FOOTED, AGILE, AND ABLE TO NAVIGATE THE PERILS OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE WITH EFFECTIVENESS. IF YOU ARE UNENCUMBERED WITH LIES YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO IMMEDIATELY MOVE AND ACT WITH A CLEAR CONSCIOUS AND WITH CONFIDENCE THAT GOD IS ON THEIR SIDE. SO, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP YOUR HEART PURE AND YOUR MIND CLEAN SO THAT YOU CAN FIGHT FAST AND HARD AGAINST THE ENEMY.

