

September 2009

Quick Bio-glance:



MATTHEW HENRY (1662-1714) , ENGLISH NONCONFORMIST divine, was BORN at Broad OAK, a FARM-HOUSE on the confines of Flintshire and SHROPSHIRE, on the 18th of OCTOBER 1662 . He was the son of PHILIP HENRY, who had, two months earlier, been ejected by the ACT of Uniformity . Unlike most of his FELLOW-sufferers, Philip Henry possessed some private means, and was thus enabled to give a GOOD EDUCATION to his son, who went first to a school at ISLINGTON, and then to GRAY'S INN . He soon relinquished his legal studies for THEOLOGY, and in 1687 became MINISTER of a Presbyterian CONGREGATION at CHESTER, removing in 1712 to MARE STREET, HACKNEY . Two years later (22nd of JUNE 1714), he died suddenly of APOPLEXY at NANTWICH while on a JOURNEY from Chester to LONDON . Henry's well-known Exposition of the Old and New Testaments (1708–1710) is a

commentary of a PRACTICAL and devotional rather than of a CRITICAL KIND, covering the whole of the Old Testament, and the Gospels and Acts in the New . Here it was broken off by the author's DEATH, but the WORK was finished by a number of ministers, and edited by G . BURDER and JOHN HUGHES in 1811 . Of no value as CRITICISM, its unflinching good sense, its discriminating thought, its high moral TONE, its SIMPLE piety and its singular felicity of practical application, combine with the well-sustained flow of its racy English STYLE to secure for it the foremost PLACE among WORKS of its class . His MISCELLANEOUS Writings, including a LIFE of Mr Philip Henry, The Communicant's COMPANION, Directions for Daily Communion with GOD, A Method for PRAYER, A Scriptural CATECHISM, and numerous sermons, were edited in 1809 and in 1830 . See BIOGRAPHIES by W . Tong (1816), C .

CHAPMAN (1859), J . B . WILLIAMS (1828, new ed . 1865); and M . H . LEE's Diaries and Letters of Philip Henry (1883) .

http://encyclopedia.jrank.org/HEG_HIG/HENRY_MATTHEW_1662_1714_.html

Theology term:

Agnostic

The word Agnostic derives from the negation of the Greek word [*gnosis*], which means esoteric knowledge of higher things. Thus, a'gnostic means No-knowledge or not knowing.

<http://www.mountainretreatorg.net/faq/glossary.html>

Monthly Memory Verse September 2009



(KJV) John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is
truth.

Memory verse for the month: September 2009 (KJV)

Dale's Notes

Read: John Chapter 17

9/7/2009

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth.**Keywords:** Sanctify, them, truth, and word**English:** sanctify**Greek word:** hagiazo**Thayer Definition:**

- 1) to render or acknowledge, or to be venerable or hallow
- 2) to separate from profane things and dedicate to God
 - 2a) consecrate things to God
 - 2b) dedicate people to God
- 3) to purify
 - 3a) to cleanse externally
 - 3b) to purify by expiation: free from the guilt of sin
 - 3c) to purify internally by renewing of the soul

Part of Speech: verb

Sanctify: we learned the Greek word is Hagiazō (pronounced: hag-ee-ad-zo) that means to set one apart for holiness unto God. Simply set apart; but the thought is to make holy/pure, even to concentrate to God in this world for service.

- The importance of this word is Christ is praying to the Heavenly Father to sanctify his disciples through His eternal word, the truth of GOD!
- Holy living doesn't happen apart from obedience to God's truth and doesn't happen without the working of God's word in our lives through His Holy Spirit. It's God who sanctified us and it's God who keeps us holy through his word.
- Sanctify them; they are already sanctified unto God because He has called them according to His purpose. The drive here is Father sanctify them through your Word (employing the mode by which they are sanctified) for service. Remember Jesus already tells us they are not of the world. So, if the apostles are not of the world they are already set apart from it, "they are not of the world". Now we can also read in 1st Thessalonians 5:23 it's God that keeps the saints set apart in this world unto the appearing of their savior.
- **1Th 5:23** And the God of peace ***himself sanctify you wholly***; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved entire, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- To sanctify them wholly denotes something in which GOD is looking for. He is NOT looking for separate lives from this world but separate lives unto God "Without Blame" (above verse – Without blame (without fault) is the sanctifying work of God in His Children to present them to Christ at His appearing. The word preserved (describes to guard from loss or injury, even to watch, to keep from escape. Strong's points out like a fortress or an army battalion). This is the action of God's working to keep us faultless until the end result is accomplished).

9/14/2009

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth.

Sanctify **THEM**: the Greek word is AUTOS (ow-tos) a pronoun. Now the context tells us in this verse “them” refers to His apostles (Disciples).

Thayer Definition: (himself, herself, themselves, itself 2) he, she, it 3) the same

However, it’s important to notice again the desires of our Lord for the Heavenly Father to give sanctified lives through His eternal truth to “them” that are his own.

The prayer of the Lord to the Father is **specific, precise** for His own (them – the disciples) and for you too. How do we know this?

- We read: **Joh 17:20 Neither for these only do I pray, but for them also that believe on me through their word;** (So, we are now included in the Lord’s prayer in a specific **order** of salvation through the word preach by the apostles, handed down to you in God’s divine plan to bring you to holiness through salvation, through his word of truth)
- Now the word **them**, in Joh 17:20, the pronoun is placed on those who will hear the gospel (the truth of God, the word of God) through the preaching of the apostles and come to faith believing the word of God preach unto them.
- “**Rom 10:17** So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” and when the word of GOD is believed upon in the heart of man (the working of God), salvation brings sanctification and holiness comes by the Lord into the life of those who were opposed to GOD by sinful lives; lives of rebellion before they believed. What happened? They obey GOD! And God sanctified them! By His grace!

We are command to build up ourselves on our holy faith: **Jud 1:20** But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit...

To build you must have something to build with, right? And how will you build if you don’t know what to build with, so we can read in many places the apostles’ teachings of faith is built upon belief in the truth.

Jesus said it this way:

Joh 8:31 Jesus therefore said to those Jews that had believed him, **If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples;**

Joh. 8:32 and ye shall know the **truth**, and the **truth** shall make you free.

9/21/2009

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth.

Sanctify them through **thy truth**: the Greek Words **SOU** (soo) thy, thine (own) - this word is not found in some translations (such as ASV, ESV, ISV) but the **fact is** left out or placed in the verse, it reads with ownership of **truth** belonging to GOD to sanctify. The Greek word: alethia (pronounced: al-ay-thi-a) meaning **truth**.

In the world there is confusion concerning the truth, what is it?

Satan is not of the truth and the fallen children of men are not of the truth

Joh 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father it is your will to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and standeth not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar. and the father thereof.

Pilate shows he did not understand or know the truth of God (Even though he knew the truth that no crime was committed)

Joh 18:37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, **Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end have I been born, and to this end am I come into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.**

Joh 18:38 Pilate saith unto him, what is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find no crime in him
(*But yet, Pilate condemns him along with the Jews!*)

Let's move quickly we have lot to cover

Memory verse: John 17:17 sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Matthew Henry: on Sanctification: in regards to Jesus Christ desire before our Heavenly Father

(1.) The grace desired - sanctification. The disciples were sanctified, for they were not of the world; yet he prays, Father sanctify them, that is, [1.] "Confirm the work of sanctification in them, strengthen their faith, inflame their good affections, rivet their good resolutions.

Matthew Henry with regards to the truth of God's Word:

(2.) The means of conferring this grace - through thy truth, thy word is truth. Not that the Holy One of Israel is hereby limited to means, but in the counsel of peace among other things it was settled and agreed,

[1.] That all needful truth should be comprised and summed up in the word of God.

Divine revelation, as it now stands in the written word, is not only pure truth without mixture, but entire truth without deficiency.

(Our study on Wednesday night: Without Mixture – in this case not watered- down but the full strength of its purity in truth!)

[2.] That this word of truth should be the outward and ordinary means of our sanctification; not of itself, for then it would always sanctify, but as the instrument which the Spirit commonly uses in beginning and carrying on that good work; it is the seed of the new birth ([1Pe 1:23](#)), and the food of the new life, [1Pe 2:1-2](#).

(READ THE ABOVE TWO VERSES in 1st Peter)

Our response to God's Truth

- (KJV) **Psa 86:11** Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.
- (ASV) **Psa 138:2** I will worship toward thy holy temple, and give thanks unto thy name for thy loving-kindness and for thy truth: For thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

God's response to them that obey his truth

- (ESV) **Psa 145:18** The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Our God is the God of all truth; Jesus, he is the "Truth", truth its self!

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

Upon the cross Jesus fulfills psalms

Psa 31:5 Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth. ←---Here, we also see the psalmist calls upon the **God of Truth!**

Apart from truth that is God's truth, we can not worship GOD.

The prerequisite is **Joh 4:24** God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him **must** worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

John 16: the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit is call the **Spirit of Truth**

Joh 16:13 *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.*

So what does all this mean?

1st GOD is truth; all of God is Truth, he is the origin and originator of all truth! He is Truth! (Truth starts and ends with GOD)

Jesus Christ (the Son of God) is "the Truth", God the Father, is called "the GOD of Truth", and the Holy **Spirit** of God is called the "Spirit of Truth".

Finally, we come to the written and spoken Word of God, "Thy word is truth", and it's that word that refines the hearer and believer as they obey it. It sets apart those who are born of it and the word of truth keeps them sanctified in this world. Men can depend on it for all needs with regards to Holiness before God and not come up short but complete!

2Ti 3:16 Every scripture inspired of God *is* also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness.

2Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work.

So, if the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are the truth what should the children of God be? They are Children of the Truth, by the truth and speak the truth; because the God of truth lives in them (They mirror the nature of their Father that gives them life). "Being

born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever” (KJV). The Children of God are born of the Truth (“the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever”)!

(KJV) 1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1Pe 1:24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

1Pe 1:25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

9/28/2009

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth.

Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth. The Greek is Logos (pronounced- log-os) means: WORD. “Thy WORD” shows ownership again because it belongs to someone. God’s “WORD IS TRUTH”, because he is the originator of it and the origin of it, HE is truth.

“**Thy word is Truth!**” – As I thought about this part of the Lord’s statement something became clear with regards to the very nature of God and truth.

Let’s look at the Hebrew passage chapter 6:13-20.

First, we need to understand why the following was said in Hebrews and to whom they were said. The words were the admonishing of the Hebrew writer to the saints of God, to remain faithful to the promises of God in faith, not to be sluggish in their labor. For Gods know their labor of love, which they did in His name. It’s at this point; we are engaged by the passage with the following words used in an illustration for the *Trustworthiness* of God and His unchangeable nature and the guaranteed promise of the future (God Keeps His Word).

Heb 6:13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, *since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself.*

Heb 6:14 saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." <--- Here is the promise

Heb 6:15 And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

Heb 6:16 For people *swear* by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation.

Heb 6:17 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the *unchangeable character of his purpose*, he guaranteed it with an *oath*,

Heb 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things, *in which it is impossible for God to lie*, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

Heb 6:19 We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,

Heb 6:20 where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

You might be saying, “How does this related to “Thy Word is Truth”? Well I’m glad you asked. You have heard the adage “An honest man's word is as good as his bond. By Miguel de Cervantes: (Born September 29, 1547 – April 23, 1616) was a Spanish novelist, poet, and playwright.” *And the saying speaks to ones’ character of trustworthiness, as to an individual that could or could not be trusted.*

Liars

(ESV)Rom 3:4 By no means! **Let God be true though every one were a liar**, as it is written, "That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged."

(ASV)Rom 3:4 God forbid: yea, **let God be found true, but every man a liar**; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy words, And mightest prevail when thou comest into judgment.

(KJV)Rom 3:4 God forbid: yea, **let God be true, but every man a liar**; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

John Gills – Say this: **Rom 3:4 God forbid, yea, let God be true, but every man a liar**,.... Let no such thing ever enter into the minds of any, that the truth of God can be, or will be made of none effect by the want of faith in man; let it be always asserted and abide by; that God is true, faithful to his word, constant in his promises, and will always fulfill his purposes; though "every man is a liar", vain, fallacious, and inconstant: referring to [Psa 116:11](#);

Matthew Henry: *Let God be true but every man a liar*; let us abide by this principle, that God is true to every word which he has spoken, and will let none of his oracles fall to the ground, though thereby we give the lie to man; better question and overthrow the credit of all the men in the world than doubt of the faithfulness of God. What David said in his *haste* ([Psa 116:11](#)), that all men are liars, Paul here asserts *deliberately*. Lying is a limb of that old man which we every one of us come into the world clothed with. All men are fickle, and mutable, and given to change, *vanity and a lie* ([Psa 62:9](#)), *altogether vanity*, [Psa 39:5](#). All men are liars, compared with God.

Let's move on:

What do you understand about God in regards to his character of faithfulness and trustworthiness, when it comes to him speaking the truth? The fact is God is not dependent on us to understand. He is truth and cannot lie! Now with that understood, we can see the strength of God's word to be true and the inability for it to fail. The word of God is as HE is **immutable!** **Heb 13:8** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Can you see it? He is the same for the past, present, and future!) There are two things defined for us in the above Hebrews' passage with regards to God's character of purpose and nature.

- Unchangeable counsel of his purpose and this includes the oath he validates his purpose with.
- "It is impossible for God to lie." He does what he says, the promise!

How could you ever say "thy word is truth" if you know the person you are saying it about brings into question a doubtful character? Here we see the Son of God saying to his Father "thy word is truth" affirming for us the faithful character of God the father to sanctify them through His powerful word of truth unto the end!

Where is Jesus? What is about to happen to him when he speaks these words? Yes, he is with his disciples and he is getting ready to be crucified. It's at this time he speaks this prayer in their hearing and we read the words that Christ sanctified himself to the will and purpose of God the Father.

Christ's commitment of service to the Father

Joh 17:12 While I was with them, **I kept them in thy name which thou hast given me:** and I *guarded* them, and not one of them perished, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

(Side note: here we see Christ working the same way as GOD in 1TH 5:23 *kept, guarded and not one of them perished*)

Then we read the comparison:

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth: thy word is truth.

Joh 17:18 As thou didst send me into the world, even so sent I them into the world.

Joh 17:19 And for their sakes I **sanctify** myself, that they themselves **also may be sanctified in truth.** (The word "also")

There is no doubt Christ sanctified himself through the word of the Father and in return he sanctifies the disciple by keeping them in the name of the father, so the scriptures would be fulfilled! He then asks the Father to keep them sanctified in his truth because he was leaving this world. Jesus did not leave us "high and dry" but gave us his Spirit, the truth teacher that would live in them, his disciples. All this was done so that we would always have the sanctifying work of God in us through the truth of God.

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth,** is come, **he will guide you into all truth:** for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

This is the ongoing work of sanctification of God to keep his children in His truth. And we know that God's Word is Truth.

O' God of Light, full of truth: please sanctified your children in accordance to thy truth? Make known our way in this dark world and forgive us of our transgressions that your people may be clean in their daily lives? Refresh your preachers (big or small, old or young) with your living word to speak it in righteousness? Restore the ring to our bell of the gospel that we have watered down and remove the fear of men before our eyes and place the fear of God in its stead. Thank you Lord Jesus for your gracious, merciful sacrifice, the wonderful gift of salvation. Now be with us O' Lord and spread your net to the lost, so we can go, forgive us our latency and unwillingness to lay down our life as you have done for us? Amen.