# FAKE NEWS or FAITHFUL NEWS? (#1)

# Who are you going to believe? For every news story we read or hear today there is always another one that refers to “experts” to counter the previous story. On one newscast an interview with Dr. Knowitall reveals that the latest “science” now “proves” (with the obligatory charts to document his point) that the Covid virus is getting worse and we must live with the “new normal.” You flip over to another channel to see Dr. Toldyouso telling her listeners that “science” now “proves” that the curve has been flattened and America should lighten up and return to the “old normal.” Every single day we are bombarded with contradictory “science.” It leaves my head spinning.

# Let me restate my original question: Who are you going to believe? Whether it’s a debate about global warming (aka climate change), solar/wind power vs nuclear/coal energy, vaccinations vs natural therapies, the Y2K crisis that will end the world (remember that one?), or the coronavirus new-normal vs old-normal, we hear the apocalyptic scientists on both sides of every argument. Again, let me ask, Who are you going to believe?

# Don’t me get wrong. I most definitely believe in science! In fact, I sometimes made as high as a C+ in my science class at school. That, of course, would not qualify me to be a good scientist, because the word science is from the Latin *Scientia*, which means “knowledge, expertness, experience.” It is the system of acquiring knowledge and facts through observation and experiment. Without science, and scientists, we would still be living in the Dark Ages where the earth was flat and blood-letting cured diseases. Thank God for scientific progress. But what Paul told Timothy 2,000 years ago still holds true today: “*O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings and oppositions of science falsely so called*” (I Tim. 6:20). Virtually all other modern translations use the word “*knowledge*” instead of the KJV “*science*.” There was “false science” in Paul’s day, and in ours. So, Paul, who do we believe?

# Paul answers that question in his three volumes to preachers. First and Second Timothy and Titus were written to his young evangelists he was mentoring. He told them there was “fake news” (i.e. a fake gospel) running rampant around the world that had to be corrected. So five times in these three short letters he uses the phrase “*This is a faithful saying*” to remind them of what they could believe as opposed to what they were hearing from the world. In this current technological age of “Information Overload” we need to be able to discern truth from error. As Paul said, “*Let God be true and every man a liar*” (meaning “*every man*” who contradicted God should be labeled as a liar – Rom. 3:4 ). If God says it you can take it to the bank as a faithful saying.

# Let me give you God’s “faithful sayings” you can KNOW (i.e. science) are true because they are spoken by an omni-scient (all-knowing) God:

1. **“*This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief*”** (1 Timothy 1:15)
2. ​*“This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.* (I Timothy 3:1)
3. “*For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance*.” (I Timothy 4:8-9)
4. *This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him.
If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.
If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.* (2 Tim 2:11-13)
5. “*This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men*.” (Titus 3:8)

#  Before I read the news I make it my goal each day to first read God’s inspired revelation (2 Tim. 3:16-17). It is “*profitable*” for instruction in righteousness and will make me complete for every good work. Now that is “Law of Science” that cannot be contradicted or even challenged by scientific experts. If I am disoriented in a forest and have a compass I can always locate “true north” and find my way out. When I am confused by expert scientists who continually have me lost with their analysis of “facts,” I can reorient myself with the Bible and say confidently, “Now that is true!” With David I can confidently affirm, “*Your Word O Lord is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path*” (Psa. 119:105).

# This week we can together read these five “*faithful sayings*” to get our true north bearings in the midst of the jungle of news we hear every hour of every day.

**Fact #1: “*This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief*”** (1 Timothy 1:15)

If science is the system of observation and experiment to gather knowledge, we all “know” for certain that “*all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God*” (Rom. 3:23). It’s so true, “*there is none righteous, no, not one*!” (Rom. 3:10,12). That leaves us (and every man) hopelessly lost (Eph. 2:12). Every man or woman who has a conscience feels like Paul, “the chief of sinners.” But the good news (thank God it’s not fake news) is: “***Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners***!”

Right now, this very moment, if I have been baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27), and have confessed all my sins (I Jn. 1:9), then I can KNOW (true science) *“He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* Gabriel told Mary her miraculously born son had but one mission: - *“… you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins”* (Matt. 1:23). I am one of “*His people*” and He has saved me from my sins! Now that’s news we all need to hear every single day.

Until tomorrow (we examine Fact #2)… Christ has saved you. Now that’s good news!
- Rick