



# BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW













































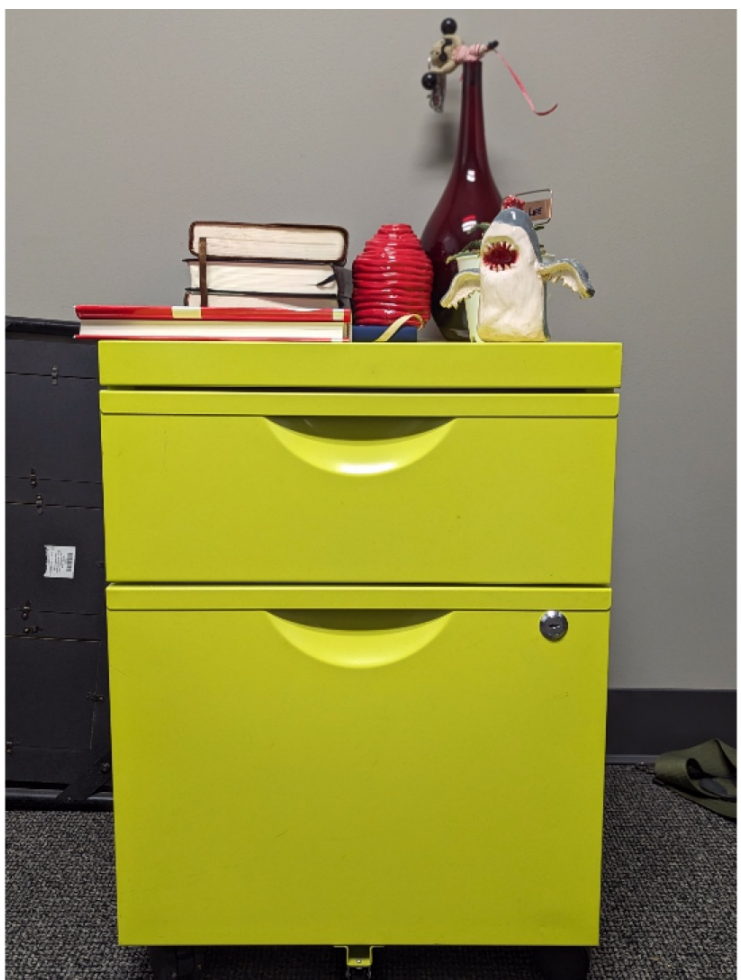














People are not naturally truthful.

Truth is a belief and speech that match  
**God's reality.**

1. God is truth and the **source of truth**.



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“He who blesses himself in the land shall bless himself by the God of truth, and he who takes an oath in the land shall swear by the God of truth.”

Isaiah 65:16

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

John 14:6



“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

“You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

John 14:16-17

“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.”

John 16:13

“The sum of your word is truth, and every one  
of your righteous rules endures forever.”

Psalm 119:160



1. God is truth and the source of truth.
2. God's **central message of love** is the truth.

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“We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,

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“because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel.”

Colossians 1:3-5

Truth is ... not lying



Truth is ... not lying

“Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.”

Proverbs 12:19

Truth is ... not lying

“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.”

Ephesians 4:25

Truth is ... accurate testimony  
and appropriate judgments

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“Whoever speaks the truth gives honest  
evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.”

Proverbs 12:17



Truth is ... accurate testimony  
and appropriate judgments

“These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace.”

Zechariah 8:16

Truth is ... sincere speech  
not based on pleasing people

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“And they sent their disciples to him [Jesus],  
along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we  
know that you are true and teach the way of  
God truthfully,

Truth is ... sincere speech  
not based on pleasing people

“and you do not care about anyone’s opinion,  
for you are not swayed by appearances.”

Matthew 22:16



Truth is ... sincere speech  
not based on pleasing people

“But we have renounced disgraceful,  
underhanded ways. We refuse to practice  
cunning or to tamper with God’s word,

Truth is ... sincere speech  
not based on pleasing people

“but by the open statement of the truth we  
would commend ourselves to everyone’s  
conscience in the sight of God.”

2 Corinthians 4:2

Truth is ... loving speech that builds up

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“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body,

Truth is ... loving speech that builds up  
“joined and held together by every joint with  
which it is equipped, when each part is  
working properly, makes the body grow so  
that it builds itself up in love.”

Ephesians 4:15-16

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The Bible defines truthful behavior.

God is truth and the source of truth.  
God's central message of love is truth.  
The Bible defines truthful behavior.

Therefore: Truth is belief and speech  
that match God's reality.

“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’

“But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

“And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.”

Matthew 5:33-37



BIG IDEA:

Kingdom people radically speak **reliable truth**.

- The **historic** practice of God's people

- The **historic** practice of God's people

“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’”

Matthew 5:33

Tell the truth,  
don't lie,  
**do what you promise,**  
or don't promise at all.

swear = invoke authority or a symbol of  
authority to heighten the stakes of a  
promise

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vow = an “if ... then” promise given to God or  
someone else



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vow = an “if ... then” promise given to God or  
someone else

oath = a promise to do something

- The historic practice of God's people
- The **distorted** practice of Jesus' day

- The historic practice of God's people
- The **distorted** practice of Jesus' day

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- The historic practice of God's people
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“And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.”

Matthew 5:34-36

“The problem was that in Jesus’ time the traditional, biblical teaching had come under massive abuse. Somewhere along the line some rabbis (but not all rabbis) began to teach that an oath was not binding if it did not include God’s name or imply it.

“Therefore, if you swore by your own or someone else’s life or the life of the king or by some object, but did not mention or allude to the name of God, you were not bound ...



“The swearing of oaths had degenerated into a system of rules as to when you could lie and when you could not ...

“There was an inevitable trivialization of everyday language and integrity. It became common practice to convince another that you were telling the truth while [you were] lying.”

Kent Hughes

- The historic practice of God's people
- The distorted practice of Jesus' day
- The **kingdom** practice of Jesus' people

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“... anything more than this comes from evil.”

Matthew 5:37b

A world where we must convince others  
we are truthful  
is evidence that the world is broken.

“And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

“By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day — and there will be no night there.”

Revelation 21:23-25



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The Bible defines truthful behavior.

What does this look like for us?

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- **broadly** -

What does this look like for us?

- **broadly** - What would happen if I radically spoke reliable truth?

What does this look like for us?

- broadly - What would happen if I radically spoke reliable truth?
- **specifically** -



What does this look like for us?

- broadly - What would happen if I radically spoke reliable truth?
- **specifically** - In marriage, keep your vow.