Hearts That Can Hear

Tony Mauck · Matthew 13:10–17

INTRODUCTION

- Truthful lips will be established forever, but a lying tongue is only for a moment.
- This emanates from the very character of God Himself, in which it is impossible for God to lie.
- Truth saves. Truth exalts. Truth matters. Lies destroy.

1 Truth: Do You Know It When You Hear It?

John 16:12–16

- I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
- For he will not speak on his own initiative, but whatever he hears, he will speak.
- The Holy Spirit is going to guide you in my things, which are the Father's things, and He's going to guide you into all truth.

2 Don't You Want to Be Right?

- Why do people settle religiously for less than truth?
- I want to know what God said. I want to be consistent in my dealing with this message.
- Am I content with what a preacher says? Or only what God's word actually reveals?
- Whatever the result is, are you going to embrace truth regardless of the cost?

3 The Kind of Heart That Can Embrace Truth

Acts 16:14

- The Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.
- She had the kind of disposition of heart that could embrace truth, and thus God opened her heart.

4 To You It Has Been Granted

Matthew 13:10–17

- To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted.
- Whoever has, to him shall more be given, and he shall have an abundance.
- For the heart of this people has become dull. And with their ears they scarcely hear.
- Blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.
- What he's saying is, this is a foundational parable. If you have this heart, the heart that desires the word, embraces it and clings to it and holds fast, you will then be equipped to understand all of them.

5 God Does Not Arbitrarily Decide

- God does not arbitrarily decide. It is based on our will to choose.
- While all who find him do so by his grace and mercy, it is ultimately determined by my willingness to choose him and his will.
- Because God is lovingly, graciously making appeal after appeal that they might indeed change their hearts.
- Is your will flexible? Are you willing to set aside your desires for his.

6 Approach God's Word With a Submissive Heart

Isaiah 55:11; John 7:17

- It reveals what's in a person's heart toward God. For some it draws, for others, it rejects.
- People who approach God's word with a submissive heart will arrive at truth and be blessed.
- If we don't embrace truth, we are not healed.
- If any man is willing to do his will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God.
- If someone has the right heart, he will end up in the right place. But that right heart has to be cultivated.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you embraced these wonderful provisions of the gospel of Jesus Christ? Have you been cleansed in his blood? Healed by his work of atonement. Freed from the bondage of your sin by submitting yourself to the will of the kingdom.

MY NOTES