

Truth doesn't sell

“Every one that thirsts, come to the waters, and he that has no money; come buy, and eat; come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” *Isaiah 55:1*

Years ago a contentious co-worker got into it with me over my being a Christian. She, an atheist accused me of being a coward. She surmised that Christians can't stand admitting there's no afterlife and so we've spun a tale of eternal life to assuage our fears over death. I countered that atheists in fact are the weaklings. After all, if there's no justice or recompense on death, then we can get away with doing anything in this existence and take no responsibility beyond the grave. I figure going scott-free takes no courage, but standing up to a higher authority later on takes more guts than what most folks are willing to summon.

Was able to test my theory of cowardice shortly after she unleashed her venom. I put a scenario to her:

I offered, “If you could have all your questions about life answered, all the detail you want. Would you want to know the truth?”

Her shocking response? “No.”

To this day, I can still see her pained expression and hear her nearly whispered response. Even now, I'm flabbergasted. I shouldn't be. She has lots of company. Here's why:

Suppose for a moment, that the holy bible had no idioms to translate, no metaphors to decipher and that it required no discernment from the Holy Spirit to understand. Let's say that all, from intellectually gifted to even the most simple-minded could read it and know with certainty what was conveyed. No truths held back, no confusing multiple translations, commentaries or opinions handed down over thousands of years. No trickery, no salesmanship – nothing hidden.

For a great many, with their eyes opened, the truth would make them free. Their lives would forever change for the better, here and hereafter. Yet you must realize by now that many people would still reject it. Knowing the truth, still they would turn away. It shouldn't then surprise anyone that most ministers, priests and clergy constrained by their denominations refrain from delivering the truth in its entirety; either because they themselves are bereft of it, or because they'd be out of a job if they dare convey it no holds barred. Prophets of YHVH didn't make a good living doing their job. They were despised, many were ostracized, beaten or murdered. Openly speaking the truth nowadays may not be dangerous every time, but soon it will cost you dearly no matter where and when spoken.

Of course, our Lord paid the ultimate price for not only telling the truth, but for being the very truth itself. Even before the final sacrifice, He paid the price saying, “*foxes have their holes, birds their nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head.*” *Luke 9:58*

Also, it is written of Him: “*He was despised, and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: as One from whom men hide their face He was despised; and we esteemed Him not.*” *Isa 53:3*

Bottom line, truth is unpopular because: “*The light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their works were evil.*” *John 3:19*

Truth doesn't buy or sell. It's a gift but only for those who actively seek it. Cowards need not apply.