

Guard the Truth

Paul wrote to his young protege, Timothy: *“Guard the truth of the good news that you were intrusted with. Guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us”* (2 Timothy 1:14, NIrV).

Certainly, the truth of God is all-important. And we should all be fully committed to truth, whether it be biblical truth or just truth in general—they really are the same thing. Thankfully, we are not left to ourselves in guarding the truth. The Holy Spirit helps us.

I have known various individuals, and even complete congregations of people, who saw themselves as “The Guardians of the Truth.” Often, their entire self-image was framed by it, some even to the point of being desperate, paranoid, or even mean-spirited about it all.

Paul reminds Timothy that such a heavy burden is not squarely on our shoulders alone. We are not solely responsible for guarding the truth. The Holy Spirit is with us and in us. So, I’m confident that the truth is in pretty good hands, being that the Holy Spirit is protecting it.

The Spirit is our anointing to help us know the truth. The Spirit is our Advocate-Comforter-Helper to lead us into all truth. He helps us discern truth from error.

Furthermore, the Spirit’s work within us allows us to understand the message of God, the biblical writers, and those who proclaim Jesus.

So, rather than relying on our own strength or wisdom, our own insight or intellect, our own smarts or studies, let us call upon the Spirit to help us guard the truth. Or, maybe we are just helping Him guard the truth! Maybe that’s more like it.

As we open our Bibles or listen to the Word being taught, let us trust that the Holy Spirit will guide us to see clearly the truth. As we seek to apply God’s truths to our lives and obey God in faith, let us lean upon the Spirit for strength and council.

Let us guard the truth that God has deposited in our hearts! The Holy Spirit will help us, if we’ll let Him. After all He lives in us! And He is the Spirit of Truth (John 14:17).

Prayer

“O God, our Father, please embolden your Spirit to be at work in my heart as I seek to live for you and reflect the character and compassion of Jesus, my Lord. I pray in His name, through the power of the Spirit living in me, Amen.”

Scott