

**“Do not let your hearts be troubled
have faith in God and faith in me . . .”**

**Do you allow any troubles
or difficulties to rob you of
God’s peace ???**



As much as we try to avoid it, we all inevitably encounter trouble or difficulties. Jesus knew His disciples would have to face trials and persecution after He left them to return to His Father in heaven // for adversity can make us lose hope and therefore, make us become discouraged by adversities or it can bring us closer to God and to His promises for us. In Deuteronomy 31:8, it says: “It is the Lord who goes before you; He will be with you, He will not fail you or forsaken you; do not fear or be dismayed” (Dt. 31:8).

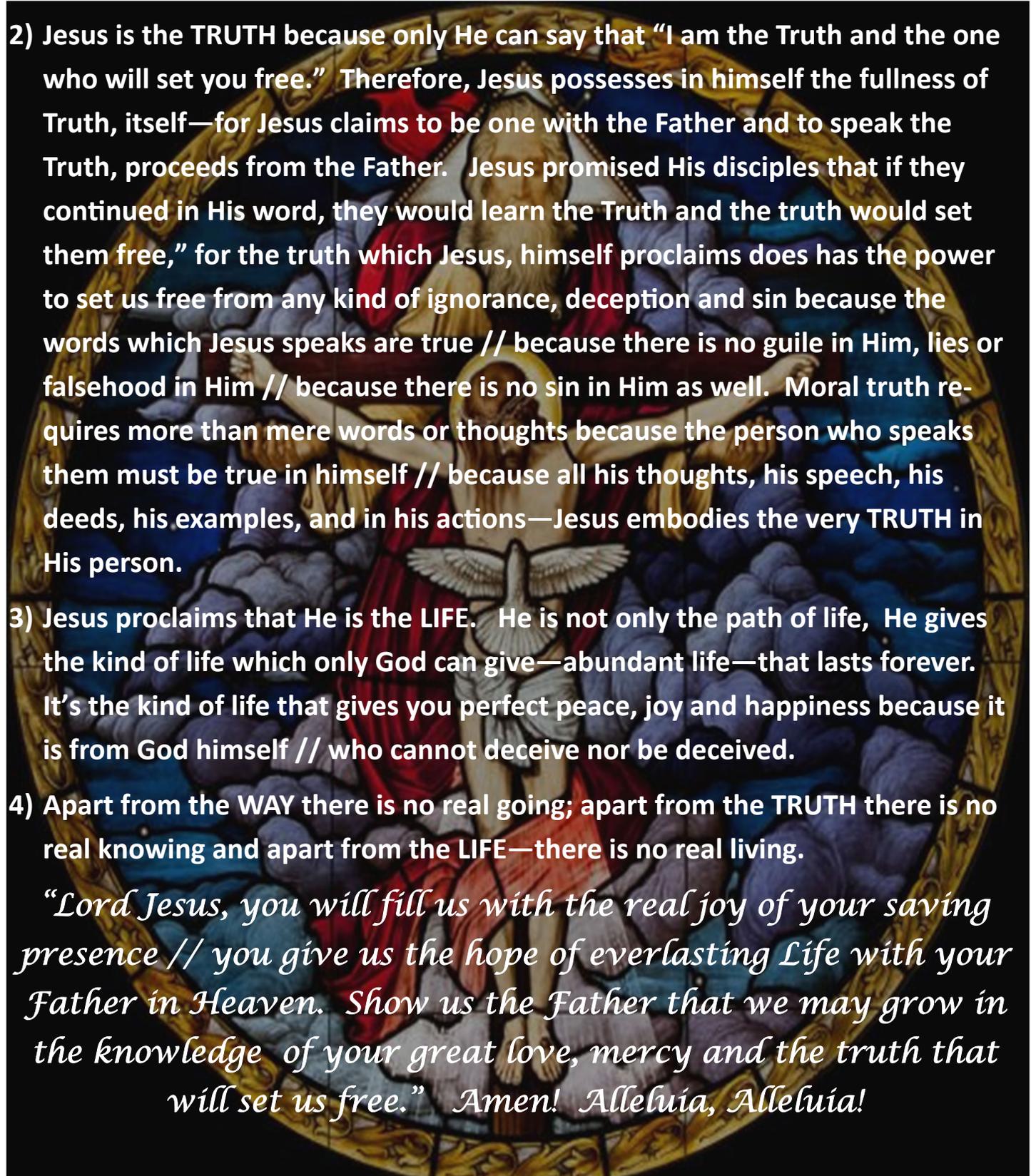
Just as God, who appeared as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, God went ahead of Moses and the Israelites to lead them safely through the wilderness to the Promise Land. In today’s Gospel it is Jesus who tells His disciples that He is going ahead of them by ascending into Heaven in order to prepare a place for them in His Father’s house – a place of lasting peace, friendship and happiness with God.

God’s house is never closed nor is it – over-crowded. In fact there is plenty of room for everyone who believes in God and in His beloved Son the Lord, Jesus Christ. The greatest fear in this present life – whether it be the separation and the loss of a loved one or the threat to one’s own life—is put to rest by Jesus’ promise that we will live forever with Him and be with His eternal father. Therein, we will be joined with a great company of saints and angels who will become our friends forever as well.

Jesus says so emphatically, in today’s gospel that— “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life!!!” We are somewhat like Saint Thomas who says to Jesus: “Show us the way for we do not know where you are going— how can we know the way?”

**Let us look more closely into why Jesus is
“The WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE:”**

1) Firstly, Jesus proclaims that: “I am the WAY” because He alone knows the way to the Father and Jesus has been with the Father from the very beginning—before time and before creation ever existed. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, gives us more than a road map, direction, GPS and guide book—for Jesus personally—is the Way to the Father’s Kingdom and we cannot miss it if we follow His commandments. Therefore, Jesus accompanies us on our daily journey and watches over us as the Good Shepherd who leads us and sustains us each and every step of the way.



2) Jesus is the TRUTH because only He can say that “I am the Truth and the one who will set you free.” Therefore, Jesus possesses in himself the fullness of Truth, itself—for Jesus claims to be one with the Father and to speak the Truth, proceeds from the Father. Jesus promised His disciples that if they continued in His word, they would learn the Truth and the truth would set them free,” for the truth which Jesus, himself proclaims does has the power to set us free from any kind of ignorance, deception and sin because the words which Jesus speaks are true // because there is no guile in Him, lies or falsehood in Him // because there is no sin in Him as well. Moral truth requires more than mere words or thoughts because the person who speaks them must be true in himself // because all his thoughts, his speech, his deeds, his examples, and in his actions—Jesus embodies the very TRUTH in His person.

3) Jesus proclaims that He is the LIFE. He is not only the path of life, He gives the kind of life which only God can give—abundant life—that lasts forever. It’s the kind of life that gives you perfect peace, joy and happiness because it is from God himself // who cannot deceive nor be deceived.

4) Apart from the WAY there is no real going; apart from the TRUTH there is no real knowing and apart from the LIFE—there is no real living.

“Lord Jesus, you will fill us with the real joy of your saving presence // you give us the hope of everlasting Life with your Father in Heaven. Show us the Father that we may grow in the knowledge of your great love, mercy and the truth that will set us free.” Amen! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Paz en Cristo,

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