## The Hard Core of Truth

## Ray Stedman

- I. Introduction.
  - A. Text: I John 2:20-21.
  - B. The first part of I John is about the power of the Christian—Jesus within.
  - C. The attractiveness of the Christian life comes from Jesus within, so fellowship with Him is paramount.
  - D. Every Christian exists to be a channel of truth, and his task is to demonstrate the truth as it is in Jesus.
  - E. Lies come in the form of false Christianities, which mislead people.
- II. Christians know because of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
  - A. When one receives Jesus Christ, he receives the anointing of the Spirit.
  - B. The Spirit is moral life—there is no sensation when that life begins.
  - C. Man's knowledge taken away in the Fall is restored to him.
  - D. Man cannot bear all knowledge without the equipment of the Holy Spirit. God will give all that He has and give it to believers through Jesus. (John 16:12)
  - E. There is something missing in man—he does not understand himself. (I Corinthians 2)
    - 1. Man does not have God's wisdom to bring himself to glory.
    - 2. Man does not have the program to bring himself to what God intended.
    - 3. Heresies spring up that teach that man already has in himself what is needed—followers are ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of truth.
    - 4. Truth is a person.
  - F. The secret of greatness is utter dependence upon God in a person.
  - G. One has to receive life before he can explain it to another.
- III. There is no lie in the truth.
  - A. There are no gray areas in life.
  - B. A believer has the ability to exercise moral judgments distinguishing between right and wrong.

- C. There is no blending between truth and error.
- D. We are shifted from fear of consequences to faith in a conqueror when we realize this.
- E. We must measure all things by the Word of God.

## **Application questions:**

. What kind of knowledge does God restore the believer to through the Holy Spirit?	
2. Have you ever found yourself compromising by justifying an act? What did you learn from the situation?	ıe
3. How would you respond to someone who says that it is okay to go a little over the speed limit based upon what you learned in the message? Explain.	t