

OST Fall Lecture Series
Fall 2023
October 4, 11, 18
Ron Rolheiser

Living in the Light and the Truth – Discipleship 101 and the Honors Program

Overall Outline ...

1. October 4th – **A Biblical Perspective** – On Living in the Light and the Truth
 - *Living in the light as the refusal to lie and as metanoia*
 2. October 11th – **An Anthropological/Theological Perspective** – On Living in the Light and the Truth
 - *Living in the light and the truth as living out the divine energies inside us*
 3. October 18th – **A Practical Perspective** – On Living in the Light and the Truth
 - *Some Commandments for the Long Haul for living “with sincerity”*
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October 4th ... Living in the Light and the Truth – A Biblical Perspective

I. Living in the Light and the Truth – John’s Gospel

1. John’s Gospel – a word on its uniqueness
2. Darkness and Light in John’s Gospel
 - Two stories of walking in the light
 - The Samaritan woman at the well – John 4
 - The man born blind – John 8
 - Walking in the light as the refusal to lie/Walking in the darkness as lying and rationalizing
3. Walking in the Light as the opposite of the “unforgivable sin against the Holy Spirit”
4. Satan “as the prince of lies”

II. Walking in the Light and the Truth – Synoptic Gospels

1. The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke) – their uniqueness
2. Darkness and Light in the Synoptic Gospels
 - Jesus’ invitation to “repent and believe in the good news”

- *Metanoia*
 - Operating out of a bigger mind and heart
 - Becoming “un- paranoid”
- Henri Nouwen – the concept of “Metanoia”
- 3. Darkness as walking inside of our “petty” minds and hearts and living with paranoia
- 4. Walking in the Light as walking inside of our bigger heart and mind
 - A note on metanoia as “pondering”

III. Our challenge today

1. The importance of not lying
 - Not moving towards committing the ‘unforgiveable sin against the Holy Spirit’
 - Luther – “*Sin honestly*”
 - Protecting the “Oneness” of God and our own sanity
 - Radical honesty at the root of all “Recovery” programs
 - Adam and Eve – after the original sin
 - Praying for a “happy death”
 2. Our huge cultural struggle today with “truth”
 - Social media as the new “tower of Babel”
 - “Inconvenient truths” and new euphemisms
 3. Imitating the man born blind!
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