ENEMY, FOR TELLING THE TRUTH

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INTRODUCTION

A. THE SETTING:

- 1. Error had been taught to the Galatians.
- 2. Paul was refuting the error by proclaiming the truth.
- 3. Now does telling them the truth make him their enemy?
- 4. "I have become hated for telling you the truth" v. 16.

B. OUR FIRST THOUGHT:

- 1. No way the truth would make him their enemy.
- 2. In fact they should / would appreciate the truth.
- 3. And the help that it would give them.

C. BUT:

- 1. This has not always been the result of truth telling.
- 2. We have many examples when enemies were made by the truth.
- 3. We would hope that the Galatians accepted what Paul said and corrected their lives.

VALUE OF TRUTH

A. "Buy the truth and sell it not" Proverbs 23:23

B. How Precious Is The Truth?!.

O. T. EXAMPLES

A. Micaiah.... I Kings 22.

- 1. The setting:
- 2. The story.
- 3. Why did Ahab hate Micaiah?
 - a. He always says bad things about me...
 - b. That is he always told Ahab the truth.
- 4. What he did to the prophet.

B. JEREMIAH:

- 1. The time
- 2. What was taking place when Jeremiah began to preach.
 - a. Judah in sin.
 - b. On the brink of disaster.

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- 3. Jeremiah came proclaiming the Word of God.
 - a. What was going to happen to Judah.
 - b. What the people should do.
 - c. He told the people the truth.
- 4. How did the people respond to the truth? a. Jeremiah was beaten, imprisoned

 - b. All but killed.
- 5. Put Paul's words in Jeremiah's mouth... "Do I become your enemy for telling you the truth...

What is the answer?

N. T. EXAMPLES

- A. Obvious place to begin is with Jesus.
 - 1. How much time it would take to give the examples of the truth that Jesus taught - the reaction of the Jews.
 - 2. How did the Jews respond to the truth presented by Jesus?
 - a. Their many accusations...He has a demon, etc.
 - b. Try to stone Him.
 - c. Finally they crucify Him.

B. STEPHEN:

- 1. One of the 7 chosen to serve.
- 2. And Stephen, full of grace and power, wrought great wonders and signs among the people. (Acts 6:8).
- 3. Acts Chapter 7; Stephen give a quick outline of O.T. history and God's plan for saving man.
- 4. How did they respond? Now when they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. —but they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and rushed upon him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city, and stoned him: (Acts 7: 54; 57,58).

- A. "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" Jn. 8:32;
- B. John 17:17.
- C. John 14:6.
- D. CONCLUSION: <u>How important is the truth today?</u>
 - 1. In life. Examples.
 - 2. In religion????
- E. How do people respond to the truth of God's Word today?