

## Unit III

### 1. Of truth

Pilate, the ancient Roman Governor of Judaea, was not much interested in knowing the meaning of truth. He seemed to have a sceptical frame of mind. There are certainly people who frequently change their opinions. They consider it a sign of mental slavery to have fixed beliefs. They advocate free will in thought as well as in action. In ancient Greece there was a school of philosophers called the Sceptics.

The discovery of truth involves a lot of time and labour. Besides, when truth has been discovered, it acts as a kind of restraint upon the minds of men, because men cannot then change their beliefs according to their whims. Lies are in favour not because of either of these two causes. It seems that human beings are somehow or other attracted by lies.

Truth is like the clear day-light in which the shows and the spectacles presented on the stage of a theatre are seen for what they are, while lies are like candle-lights in which the same shows and spectacle appear to be far more attractive. Truth gives greater pleasure when a lie has been added to it.

An early writer of the church described poetry as the wine of the devils. But poetry tells lies which are received by the mind and then forgotten. Such lies do not settle down in the mind. But much harm is done by those lies that sink into the mind and settle down there.

Only those who understand truth realise the value of truth. Truth is the supreme good for human beings. The inquiry of truth may be described as the wooing of it; the knowledge of truth may be described as the presence of it; and the belief of truth may be described as the enjoying of it.

The first thing that God created was light, and the final thing that He created was the rational faculty which He bestowed upon man. Having completed His work of creation, God has ever since been illuminating the minds of human beings with His divine spirit. Truth is important not only in theological and philosophical fields, but also in the sphere of ordinary life. Even those

who do not practise truth know that honest and straightforward dealings show the dignity and honourable quality of a man.

### **Analysis**

This essay gives expression to ideas which are noble and worthy of the highest appreciation. All great thinkers, philosophers, divines, saints, and prophets of the world have dwelt upon the supreme value of truth. Of course, it is very difficult to decide what truth is and Pilate was perhaps justified in not waiting for the answer to this question. Standards of truth in religious, philosophical, and moral spheres keep changing from time to time. The only truth of which we can be certain is scientific truth.

The essay is written in a didactic tone. The object of the writer is to instill into the mind of his readers a love of truth. A man's mind, he says, should turn upon the "poles of truth". Bacon recognises the fact that human beings have a natural though corrupt love of lies. The lies of a poet, he says, give pleasure. The lies of a trader bring financial return. But why people should love lies for the sake of lies, he is unable to explain. Nobody will disagree with Bacon when he says that false opinions, false hopes, and false judgments have a pleasing effect upon a human being.

The principal merit of this essay, however, lies in its stylistic qualities. While the ideas of the essay are already familiar to us, it is the manner in which they are stated and conveyed to us that is more important. Bacon shows his love of learning and his habit of introducing allusions.

Bacon gives us very vivid similes and metaphors in order to illustrate his ideas. He here compares truth to the naked and open day-light which does not show the masques and mummeries and triumphs of the world as half so grand and attractive as candle-lights show them. Again, truth, he says, may claim the price of a pearl which is seen to the best advantage in day-light; but truth cannot rise to the price of a diamond or carbuncle that shows best in varied lights. He compares falsehood to an alloy in a coin of gold or silver.

This essay well illustrates Bacon's gift of compression. Most of the sentences here are written in that compact and terse style of which Bacon is a master. Allusions, aphorisms, illustrations, and

quotations make the reading of this essay a rich, entertaining experience. The condensation of thoughts is, of course, its most-striking merit.

## **Style**

We have seen that Bacon has a distinct style. No man's style is more characteristic of its age than his. Bacon's style is still unmatched after more than five centuries. He has simplicity, strength, brevity, clearness and precision. His essays are simple only in the sense of being free from all affectations, from any studied elegance in the choice of words in the structure of sentences. Strength of Bacon's style is intellectual rather than emotional. He has little taste for any energetic display of feelings; but he says what he has to say as vigorously and tersely as possible.

Indeed the secret of Bacon's strength lies in his conciseness. Hardly any writer, ancient or modern, has succeeded in compressing so much meaning within so short a compass. His essays are marvels of condensation. The secret of clearness of his style is the clearness of his thoughts.

## **2. Of Great Place Summary**

Bacon opens the essay by arguing that men at a good place, the authoritative place, maybe a servant of three things: the servant of the state, the servant of fame (popularity), and therefore the servant of business. Hence, such people don't have any kind of freedom in the least. They don't have a liberty to something for themselves, nor they will act freely, even they can't spend their time with their own choice. Bacon says that it's a weird desire of a person to achieve some power by losing his liberty. Bacon argues that man, to achieve power over another man, loses power over himself. he's the puppet within the hands of authority.

Bacon, being realistic with an exceptional vision to ascertain things, argues about how man reaches a high position in politics. He says that if a person wants to succeed in an excellent place, he has got to do certain things that aren't morally right. it's through indignities that man involves dignities. One has got to corrupt himself and will compromise over certain things to form oneself an excellent man. But this position isn't permanent leading to a downfall. Bacon quotes the Latin proverb as "Cum noesis qui fueris, non esse cur velis vivere", which

suggests that whenever a person realizes that he's no more the person he wanted to be, his motivation to measure depression and his brawl to persist ensues.

Moreover, Bacon comments on the man's nature that regardless of how great a person becomes, he seeks other's opinions to become happy. They can't judge themselves, however, they think themselves as what others consider them just to get on the highest of hotlist.

Bacon writes that good people are never willing to seek out faults in themselves. it's impossible for a person with money and power to ascertain his faults, however, when it involves grieving, they always attempt to cure it with money as soon as possible. Moreover, he says that the good men, being busy with their affairs and business, are strangers to themselves. They don't have enough time to believe themselves, don't look out of their health. the sole thing they care about is money and power until they need to lose their health then realizes that they too are humans.

Bacon, at now, acts as a philosopher and writes that a person, in power and authoritative place, has the chance to try to both, good and evil. Though evil may be a curse, however, to try to goodies is more aspiring and can satisfy the conscience of a person. Bacon argues about the great thoughts and good dreams and says that good thoughts are better as they will easily be shaped into practical form. Furthermore, a man, to require reward from God, should do some good actions.

Bacon suggests that one shouldn't only analyze his actions but should also analyze the actions of people in his surroundings. One should take examples from his surroundings to understand what's good and what's bad. A man, by seeing the simplest in others, should strictly judge himself. By comparing himself to others, he must determine his shortcomings. Likewise, he must also analyze the samples of those that carry evil with them. By this, he is going to be ready to know what to avoid. Moreover, a person should consult his past experiences to find out goodies from them to hunt for a far better future.

He, furthermore, suggests the one should preserve the dignity of his office by occupying his place properly, not by challenging others. Likewise, one should also preserve the dignity of

lower offices by permitting others to try to do their jobs without interfering. Moreover, one should consult others and consider their advice whenever they have, similarly, one shouldn't refuse the assistance whenever other offers.

Bacon, the good philosopher of the time, illustrates the three vices of great place: corruption, delays, roughness, and facility. He suggests that to avoid delays, a person should be punctual and appoint time. Likewise, for avoiding corruption, one mustn't only bind his and his servant's hands from taking but also binds the suitor's hands from the offering; moreover, tortures not only the bribers but also the bribes. Similarly, roughness within the attitude of an authoritative man makes his workers discontent. He should have kind behavior along with side fear in other's hearts. Lastly, for the power, Bacon calls it worst that bribery and advises that one shouldn't follow the break.

Bacon, at the top of the essay, argues that an excellent place shows the true nature of a person. It reflects how he's. Some people convince to be better while others the worst. There are some people whom people think to be best for the empire once they aren't emperors, that's by attaining power, they proved to be worst, however, Vespasianus was the sole emperor, who by attaining power, changed for better. it's often observed that a person when sits during an excellent spot becomes another man, however, he should learn to respect others also. a person needs others to rise at an excellent place, but once he's elected, he should balance himself to represent the entire society. Of Great Place read more...



### **Of Great Place Literary Analysis**

Of excellent spot by Bacon is an argumentative essay that argues about the competition among the brilliant and better respectable politician during his era. This essay by Bacon is relatively long and focused on a subject-matter.

Brevity, directness, wit, and the purpose arguments are among the qualities that Bacon's essay contains. The systematic way of writing makes bacon's essay to maneuver from one point to a different logically. Moreover, the topic matters he discusses in his literary genre are all supported the important life and therefore the reader found epigrammatic wisdom in it.

With the utilization of Latin proverbs, Bacon adds insignia to his writings. Of Great Place read more...

The central idea of the essay "Of Great Place" shows the reader position of men in a great position. Bacon argues about the life, manners, and obligations of the lads at higher positions. Bacon starts the essay by demerits of the upper position. He illustrates that the lads, for the sake of achieving power over other men, lose power over himself. a person involves himself in various immoral activities to achieve a higher place. additionally to the present, after attaining the upper position, he devotes himself to his duties such a lot that he compromises on

his health. the opposite demerit of upper position is that man becomes blind with money to ascertain his faults and he seeks happiness by the opinion of others.

Bacon suggested to the people at an excellent place they need to not only consider good examples around them and will learn goodies from them, however, they must also consider the samples of those that carry ill with them and learn to avoid such things. Moreover, a person should learn from past experiences to possess a fortunate future . Of Great Place read more...

The end of the essay as was common consists of recommendations and suggestions by Bacon to combat various vices of a better position. He, furthermore, adds that the good position of man shows true man. Some people convince be benevolent while others prove to worst.

The mentor such Bacon not only shows the weaknesses and strengths of an excellent man to the readers but also advises the readers the way to behave when hired in such positions. His essay shows that he was highly curious about the attribute and to write down about them so that one can improve them.

### **3. “Of Parents and Children”**

“Of Parents and Children” is a suggestive essay, in which Sir Francis Bacon provides some suggestions, through which parents can bring up their children. There are some common practices related to children, which are being followed in every society and the author wants to rectify them. For instance, people think that children themselves should choose a profession as per their interest. Sir Francis Bacon Bacon thinks the opposite and says that instead, the parents should select a profession for their children. However, somewhere in the essay he just demonstrates reality. The essay has a relational and common subject matter. Bacon is a teacher in this essay and every parent can learn something from him. The author has also quoted some wise words to fortify his stance. In fact, it is a guide to those parents, who do not know how to bring up their children in a way that they can get success in future.

### **Griefs and Joys of Parents:**

Children are the greatest gift of God but at the same time, they make parents' condition miserable, considers Sir Francis Bacon. However, all the parents keep their joys as well as griefs secret. He, epigrammatically, illustrates this situation in these words: "The joys of parents are secret, and so are their griefs and fears". Parents work hard for their children and try to make them happy. They have hope that their children will live a life of content; therefore, parents enthusiastically struggle for them. On the other hand, they also fear their bad luck because it can impact the lives of children. Children are blessings of God but they increase the anxieties of parents, says Sir Francis Bacon. Nevertheless, the parents feel delighted while seeing their children with the hope that they would continue living their life through their children. Thus, children are source of pleasure as well as grief.

### **Difference between Human and Animal Species (elaborated through examples):**

Every species can continue living in this world through reproduction but there are some differences between humans and animal species. Humans have memory; they can make history and remember it. For example, ancient Roman and Greek History can still be found in libraries. Besides, humans are intellectual; they cannot swim but they can make submarines; they cannot fly but they can make airplanes. They have the ability to survive in every situation: whether by hook or crook. Additionally, they are not only remembered because of reproduction but because of their good deeds. For instance, we still remember Homer because of his poem Iliad. Similarly, Aristotle is still known because of his knowledge. Indeed, there is a vast difference between human and animal species.

Bacon thinks that people who are married and have children cannot do noble deeds. They focus their attention on their family and children. Thus, Sir Francis Bacon calls children as a barrier for parents on the path of success.

### **Unequal affection of parents:**

Some parents make a difference between their children. In many families, some children are more affectionate, whereas some are less. This kind of attitude of parents against their children is



unjustified in the eyes of Sir Francis Bacon. He advises parents to love every child equally. Especially, the mother's affection should be equal towards every child. He mentions legendary words of Solomon, who said: "A wise son rejoiceth the father, but an ungracious son shames the mother." These words are true even today. When a child does something good, his father is praised but whenever he does a shameful act, his mother is alleged for his act. Besides, in most of the families, the youngest child and the eldest child are respected, whereas middle children are ignored. This common practice is also not acceptable; in most of the cases, middle children prove themselves best and bring fame to families.

### **Suggestions to parents:**

Sir Francis Bacon has some suggestions for parents as well as for children. He recommends that parents should not fix pocket money of the children. If pocket money is too low then the child will try to learn every such method through which he can make money. He would start spending his time in a bad company, where he will learn new means of cheatings and earnings. Finally, he will become greedy and do anything to get a large sum of money. Hence, the attitude of parents should not be strict nor liberal especially in the matter of pocket money.

Parents should also not create competition between their children. Particularly, brothers should not be inspired to compete for each other. This method will increase hatred between them; they will become jealous and ultimately, they will consider each other enemies. Sir Francis Bacon in "Of Parents and Children" gives an example of Italians, who does not make any difference between the son and nephew. He encourages such kind of practices. Sometimes a nephew earns better respect for his uncle as compared to a real child for his father.

### **Children cannot decide their future:**

Some parents think that it is the duty of a child to choose a profession for himself. Bacon does not think that it is a right decision. Children cannot decide their future. They, in most of the cases, just have temptations; therefore, it is the duty of parents to show them the right path. Parents should select a profession for their children. However, in exceptional cases, a child may be allowed to decide. For instance, if he has strong feelings for a specific field, he may be allowed to adopt it. Nevertheless, the decision should be made as early as possible.

At last, Bacon illustrates his another experience. He says that the young children are fortunate. They are also good at making their careers. However, it is not true if they are going to inherit a lot of wealth.

### **Conclusion:**

Sir Francis Bacon has experienced the activities of children and parents. He does not favour anyone; instead, he tries to make a balance. He guides the parents through examples; he also quotes authentic words of ancient people. In simple words, he convinces the parents to rectify their wrongdoings. Many epigrammatic sentences are also there in the essay. Whenever he makes a comparison between two things, he uses an epigrammatic sentence. However, they have no ambiguity; rather they clear doubts from the heads of readers. Philosophically, this essay is rich. Every advice of the author is applicable even in this era. Due to these qualities, the essay “Of Parents and Children” by Sir Francis Bacon gained eminence in every century.

### **4. The Bible chapter 5 to 7 from the gospel according to matthew**

Matthew 5 is sometimes referred to as the “Sermon on the Mount.” The main focus is on Jesus educating his disciples. He begins preaching to the masses on a mountaintop. The beginning of his message outlines who is blessed and why they receive these blessings.

#### Proclamations

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Some of the key declarations that Jesus makes in Matthew 5 include:

- » Those who rely on God will own heaven.
- » Mourners will be comforted by him.
- » The poor shall inherit the earth.
- » A righteous heaven awaits those who do right by God.
- » If you are kind to others, you shall receive that kindness back in form.
- » People with kind hearts will share in God’s company.

- » Peacemakers will be anointed “Children of God.”
- » A great reward awaits in heaven for those who are mistreated for their work in God’s name.

## Jesus’ Stories

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Jesus told short stories, or parables, intended to teach lessons. He uses salt as a metaphor for his disciples. In the Bible, salt is used to symbolize purification, permanence, loyalty, usefulness, durability, value, and fidelity. Jesus says that his disciples are the salt of the earth and light of the world.

Jesus then proceeds to discuss adultery and anger. He advises that the Old Testament teachings are inadequate when addressing how one should control their lust and temper. He states that simply lusting in one’s heart is a sin, even if no physical act is carried out. Jesus also declares that divorce is never an alternative.

## Love and Forgiveness

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Jesus’ next lesson does away with the Old Testament’s statement of an “eye for an eye,” and instead, he advises his disciples to “turn the other cheek.”

Finally in Matthew 5 we have the Jesus’ famous sermon calling for everyone to “love their enemies”. Furthermore, he says to pray for everyone, even those who discriminate against you.

## Matthew 5–7

“Lesson 3: Matthew 5–7,” *New Testament Teacher Manual* (2018)

### Introduction and Timeline

President Thomas S. Monson (1927–2018) spoke of the Sermon on the Mount and the Galilean hillside where it took place: “Here it was that the greatest person who ever lived delivered the greatest sermon ever given—the Sermon on the Mount” (“The Way Home,” *Ensign*, May 1975, 15). As the Savior began His Galilean ministry, He declared that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 4:17), and then in the Sermon on the Mount (see Matthew 5–7) taught

doctrines and principles of righteousness that govern the lives of those who belong to His kingdom and lead to happiness and eventual perfection.

At the conclusion of the sermon, “the people were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes” (Matthew 7:28–29; see similar sermons in Luke 6:17–49 and 3 Nephi 12–14). In other words, the people were astonished by what He said and by how He said it. He did not teach by citing precedent or previous authority, as the scribes and rabbis did. He taught as one having the authority of God Himself.

## Chapter Overviews

### Matthew 5

Jesus Christ began His Sermon on the Mount by teaching the Beatitudes. He declared that the law of Moses was fulfilled and taught the righteous way of life that leads to becoming perfect like Heavenly Father.

### Matthew 6

The Savior continued the Sermon on the Mount, teaching how to pray, fast, and serve others. He taught His disciples to place love of God over the cares of the world.

### Matthew 7

Jesus Christ concluded the Sermon on the Mount, teaching that the way to eternal life is narrow and that those who enter into the kingdom of heaven are those who do the will of Father in Heaven.

## Suggestions for Teaching

Note to teacher: Because there are so many important teachings in this scripture block, you will have to be selective about what you teach. Consider the needs of your students and seek the guidance of the Spirit as you determine what to teach. If the length of your course permits, you might consider taking two class sessions to teach this material.

What to Teach

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland taught:

“First of all, we are teaching people, not subject matter per se; and second, every lesson outline that I have ever seen will inevitably have more in it than we can possibly cover in the allotted time.

“So stop worrying about that. It’s better to take just a few good ideas and get good discussion—and good learning—than to be frenzied, trying to teach every word in the manual. ...

“An unrushed atmosphere is absolutely essential if you are to have the Spirit of the Lord present in your class” (“Teaching and Learning in the Church,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, June 2007, 91).

### **Matthew 5:1–12**

- living one of the Beatitudes increased your level of happiness?

Encourage students to consider which of the Beatitudes they most need to improve in and commit to work on this attribute during the coming week or month. As you teach the remainder of Matthew 5–7, you might encourage students to consider how the Beatitudes are connected to the rest of what the Savior taught in the Sermon on the Mount. Ask students to consider this principle: **Applying the principles taught in the Beatitudes helps us to come unto Christ and to obtain greater happiness.** Ask them to share ways in which they have seen the truth of this principle.

### **Matthew 5:17–48**

#### **Jesus Christ Taught Us How to Become Like Heavenly Father**

Ask students: “If there was any advice or counsel you could offer your fellow students about how to return home to Heavenly Father, what would that advice be?”

Help establish the context of this scripture block by asking students to read Matthew 5:17, 48. Jesus taught that He came to fulfill the law, and He also taught that the ultimate purpose of His teachings was to help us become like Father in Heaven.

List the following scriptures on the board:

Explain to students that in each of these passages from Matthew 5, Jesus Christ referred to a law or custom people were familiar with, and then He taught a higher principle that gave correct understanding of the law or custom. In this way, He taught that the gospel of Jesus Christ was greater than the laws and customs of Moses's dispensation. Explain that you will ask students to study one of the scriptures listed and then ask them to report the following to the class:

1. The law or custom that the people had heard.
2. The principle Jesus Christ taught.
3. How living that principle helps us become more like Heavenly Father.
4. A brief experience illustrating how the principle has helped you (if desired).

Note to teacher: It might be helpful to write these four items on the board so the students can refer back to them.

To help students better understand this assignment, study the first scripture as a class. Have a student read Matthew 5:21–26 aloud, and then guide students in identifying the answers to the four items. (1. The law was “Thou shalt not kill.” 2. The higher or more complete principle was that we should choose not to become angry or treat people with contempt. 3. The principle can help us become more like Heavenly Father because He is loving and sees the worth of each soul. 4. You might tell about a time when you chose not to become angry.)

Divide your class into small groups or pairs. Assign each group to study one of the four remaining blocks of scripture listed on the board. After students have had time to read and consult with each other, have groups share their responses with the class.

For additional analysis and discussion of Matthew 5, you might ask:

- How could one or more of the Beatitudes help us live the principles the Savior taught in Matthew 5:21–48? (Possible answers: Being meek can help us not to become angry with others. Being pure in heart can help us not to lust after others. Being willing to be persecuted for righteousness' sake can help us to turn the other cheek. Being a peacemaker can help us to love our enemies.)

Have students look in Matthew 5:48 for what might be the most difficult commandment that the Savior ever gave.

- What commandment did Jesus give in this verse?
- How might someone feel when first reading this verse?

Have students read 1 Nephi 3:7 and Philippians 4:13.

- What do these scriptures teach about the Savior’s command to be perfect?

Ask a student to read the statement by President Russell M. Nelson in the student manual commentary for Matthew 5:48.

- How does this statement encourage you in your quest for eventual perfection?

Explain to students that in Matthew 5 we learn this principle: **By following the teachings of Jesus Christ, we can become like our Father in Heaven.** Testify that with the help of the Lord, we can fulfill all of God’s commandments. Although we will not achieve perfection in this life, we can strive for perfection and actually become perfect in many commandments while in mortality. Through the Atonement of Jesus Christ, becoming perfect like our Father in Heaven is possible in the eternities (see Moroni 10:32–33; D&C 67:13; 76:69).

### **Matthew 6:1–18; 7:7–11**

#### **The Savior Discoursed on Worshipping the Father**

Explain that as recorded in Matthew 6, the Savior taught important principles about how to worship the Father, including by praying, by fasting, and by serving others. Have students make a brief list on the board of various reasons why people might pray, fast, or serve others. Ask one-third of your class to read Matthew 6:1–4, another third to read verses 5–6, and another third to read verses 16–18. Have each student look for what counsel the Savior gave concerning our worship.

#### “Look for” Skills

One of the more effective scripture teaching skills is to send students into a block of scripture looking for specific things. This scripture study skill encourages students to develop a spirit of inquiry that will increase their comprehension of the scriptures.