

12/21/03 – “THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH”

Diverse people have competing claims for ultimate truth. A popular “current truth” is there is no truth; it’s relative, situational & unknowable

If you claim to have the truth, you may be labeled as arrogant, non tolerant, judgmental & opinionated

Our faith does not rest on subjective myth...Our faith is established on the bedrock of absolute **truth** embodied in Jesus Christ

It is essential to understand that the **truth** of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is not built on myth, fairytale or legend

We have a faith that is **historical, relational, prophetic, & supernatural**. A testimony going from the creation of man to the present

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” – John 3:16

TRUTH IN CULTURE & RELIGION

All religions are not the same...beliefs & unbeliefs have eternal consequences

Our court system doesn’t accept “Do you swear to give half-truths, part truths & nothing but a portion of the truth, so help your higher power?”

Rather, “Do you swear to give the **whole truth**, nothing but the **truth** so help you God?”

The major religions of the world have aspects of **truth** – will say & try to do good things for their fellow-man

Sincerity is not the **truth** nor good intentions; can always be learning but never coming to the knowledge of the **truth** – 2 Timothy 3:7

Truth is that which is inherently correct in form & substance of what is – Thy Word is **truth** – John 17:17

Jesus doesn’t just talk about or show the **truth**, He is the **truth** – “I am the way, and **the truth**, and the life.” – John 14:6

A myth is something that is fabricated, something invented, imagined, it is unverifiable – **Truth** is that which really is...reality

Myths are often formed in defiance of **truth** & serve the interest of religion, government or culture

A myth is not **truth** – entire cultures, religions & belief systems have been built around mythology & legend

Japanese Emperor (a sun god), Dahli Lama (reincarnation), Buddha (Nirvana), Brands of religion (earning salvation), Hindu (Karma)

In 2 Timothy 4:4 we’re reminded, “and (men) will turn away their ears from the **truth**, and will turn aside to myths.”

Western culture is enthralled with tolerance & relativism – Who are you to say? What is right or wrong? What’s true? That’s your opinion. etc.

Two thousand years ago Pilate asked Jesus, “What is **truth**?” & it was staring him right in his face in the person of Jesus Christ

“**Truth** is not determined by majority vote or the polls – those are only opinions & have nothing to do with the truth.” – Winston Churchill

EXACT TRUTH

This is our time to serve God in our own generation & worship Him in spirit & **truth**

As Christians, we serve the Lord of all creation - “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” - Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” – John 1:1 – Jesus is the Word made flesh – John 1:14

“Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one.” – Deut. 6:4

The scriptures are written down for us to help & clarify when, where, how & why Jesus came – Thy Word is **truth** – John 17:17

Luke 1:1-4 – Luke was a doctor, a man of detail – thoroughly investigated everything so that we might know the **exact truth**

We have been given the **exact truth** – not lies, fables or allegories, but the Word of God – “**Truth** does not lie.”

“**All Scripture is inspired by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.” – 2 Timothy 3:16

The apostles testified to the **truth** & said that they couldn’t stop speaking about that which they had seen and heard – Acts 4:20

We have the exact **truth** of eyewitnesses who were there from the beginning - Luke investigated thoroughly & recorded accurately

Luke was Paul’s companion & wrote the book of Acts – “To these He also presented Himself alive, after His suffering, **by many convincing proofs**, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.” – Acts 1:3

He has revealed in His Word – who He is, how He came, why He came, & that He will come again! **Jesus Christ full of grace & truth**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive their King!