

What Is Truth?

John 18:36-38

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- 36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.
- 37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end have I been born, and to this end am I come into the world, that I should bear witness unto the *truth*. Every one that is of the *truth* heareth my voice.
- 38 Pilate saith unto him, *What is truth?* And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find no crime in him.

The Rejection of Truth

- Genesis 3:1-6 → 1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which Jehovah God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden?
- 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat:
- 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
- 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:
- 5 for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil.

The Rejection of Truth

- Romans 1:18-25 → 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hinder the truth in unrighteousness;
- 19 because that which is known of God is manifest in them; for God manifested it unto them.
- 20 For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, *even* his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be without excuse:
- 21 because that, knowing God, they glorified him not as God, neither gave thanks; but became vain in their reasonings, and their senseless heart was darkened.

The Rejection of Truth

- 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,
- 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God for the likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.
- 24 Wherefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts unto uncleanness, that their bodies should be dishonored among themselves:
- 25 for that they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

The Reality of Truth

- Truth sets forth the way things really are. That which is in accordance with fact or reality.
- Jesus said: “... to this end am I come into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth...” (John 18:37)
- Truth is not...
 - How we might feel or like things to be...
 - How things may seem to appear...
 - What society holds to...
 - What the majority decides...
 - What contemporary culture seeks to impose...

The Reality of Truth...

- Divine → Jn. 1:17; 18:37; 14:6; 16:13
- Absolute → I Cor. 6:9-11; Rev. 20:8
- Objective → Jn. 17:17; 8:31-32
- Singular → Jn. 14:6; Eph. 4:5; Jude 3
- Unchangeable → Ps. 119:89,160
- Authoritative → Matt. 4:4; 7:21; II Jn. 4; III Jn. 4
- Powerful → Rom. 1:16-17; 10:17; Acts 2:36; Jn. 17:17;
- Judges → Jn. 12:48; Rom. 2:2, 16

The Reception of Truth

- II Thess. 2:10-15 → 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
- 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:
- 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.
- 13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:
- 14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

The Reception of Truth

- **Give Me The Truth** *by Bill Crews*
- If you are my friend, if you are concerned about my soul, give me the truth. Do not flatter me. Do not praise my virtues while remaining silent about my vices. Do not fear that the truth will offend me. Do not treasure our friendship, our friendly relations, above my salvation. Do not think that by ignoring my sins you can help. Do not think that being blind to my sins will prove yourself charitable. However I may react to it whatever may be my attitude toward you after you have done it, give me the truth! For the truth, and only the truth, can make men free from the shackles of sin, strengthen me in the pathway of righteousness and lead me to the joys of heaven. If I am wavering, weak, lukewarm, indifferent, neglectful; if I have been overtaken in a trespass, if I have been drawn into the pleasures of the world; if I have left first love; if I have been led astray by error; or if I have done none of these, but simply need to grow in knowledge and be edified, give me the truth!