

UNIVERSAL TRUTH

Can there possibly be something that is universally "true" for everyone everywhere? Postmodern culture says "no, there can be no universal truth." How can that be a true statement? When the world tries to define "truth" as anything other than an absolute standard that exists independently of human opinion, nonsense reigns. Last time we explored #1- God is ABSOLUTE truth, the source of all that is true.

Truth is defined as "that which corresponds to reality, as perceived by God, who knows all things." Not things the way you think they are or wish they were, but the way things really are. Independently of your finite perceptions. According to the infinite perceptions of our creator, sustainer, and revealer of truth. He reveals Himself in the Bible as "the true God, the living God, the everlasting king" (Jeremiah 10:10).

#2- God is UNIVERSAL truth, for everyone, everywhere, always. There is only one true God. He is absolute truth, and His truth is universally true. It is true for all peoples in all places at all times. It could not be "truth" if it were otherwise. Remember, truth is not what society defines, but what God says it is. Psalm 119:89, "*Forever, O LORD, Your word is fixed in the heavens.*" v105, "*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*" Matthew 24:35, "*Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away.*" God's truth is eternal, and eternally true. For everyone, everywhere, always.

Truth is immutable. Just as the character of God is unchangeable, so truth never changes. Not in time, nor in place, nor in people group. Truth is unified. It does not compete with itself nor contradict itself. There are mysteries, but no discrepancies or errors. Scripture presents one unified universal truth: God is true. This stands in stark contrast to the lies and inconsistencies of human thinking, which is obviously influenced by Satan, in result of the fall from grace and mankind's rebellion into sin. The world says "all is one" and that "monism" is the universal integrating principle of reality, so that the many paths of pluralism all lead to one. However, the one of monism is not the God of the Bible, but the false god, Satan.

Jesus Christ declared the reality in John 14:6, "*I AM the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except by Me.*" But if you believe in Jesus, receiving Him as Savior and Lord, then you are part of a radical minority in the world today. Yet this is what God reveals in His written truth, the Bible. Still, recent surveys show that among churchgoers calling themselves believers, only 35% believe the Bible alone is the written word of God. No wonder our world is in trouble! Surveys also show that growing church movements are those teaching the Bible as God's Word. If God is God, infinite, eternal, divine, holy and immutable, then He determines truth. And His word is truth. So even His written truth must be true in all that it speaks about, down to the smallest iota detail. You can believe God's Word. It is always relevant to the human condition, because God is our creator and sustainer. His Word is the truth "*once for all delivered to the saints.*" It fits any and every situation anyone encounters.

So why doesn't everyone recognize God's truth as true? Romans 1:18 speaks of ungodliness and unrighteousness of mankind which "*suppress the truth,*" even though "*what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For His invisible attributes, namely His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*" Man prefers his own truth over God's Truth. Refusing to honor God, they "*became futile in their thinking and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools.*" And "*they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.*" Trying to cover light with darkness.

Plurality of opinion doesn't make truth, it just claims consensus. GK Chesterton said, "A fallacy is still a fallacy, even though it is in fashion." CH Spurgeon said, "Right is right though all condemn; wrong is wrong though all approve." That's why you must read God's Word every day, putting His truth in your minds. Otherwise all you get is the lies of the world, flesh, and devil. God's truth overcomes lies. That's why He gave you the Bible! That's why Christians regularly gather, to understand it, apply it to our lives, go out and live it. That's why we proclaim the good news, because God's light of Truth overcomes the darkness. Next time, #3- God is PERSONAL truth, transforming your life!