



May 10, 2024

## Keeping It Real Part 2, God's Reality

Our world is convulsing, it is being torn apart, because of differing worldviews. These worldviews separate us into groups that are at odds, even at the most fundamental levels. One person's "reality" varies so much from another person's "reality" that they find it difficult, or even impossible, to live together on the same planet. So, what's the answer?

A pervasive philosophy that has come about since the League of Nations<sup>1</sup> in 1920 is that this world's complex problems can be addressed and even solved by cooperation (i.e., the Village, as in, "It Takes a Village"<sup>2</sup>), discussion, understanding, compromise, programs, education, benevolence, or by simple empathy. We might simplify this overall philosophy by saying, "Walk a mile in my shoes!" Many people truly believe that if we can just get into another person's mindset and trudge down his/her earthly pathway, so that we can feel their pain, understand their ideas, and know what makes them happy, then somehow, this it would fundamentally change our world; it would make our planet a more sensitive and caring place, and in the end, solve many of our world's ideological conflicts. It's the utopian ideal portrayed in the famous "I'd like to buy the world a Coke"<sup>3</sup> commercial as if a common love of a beverage can erase age-old hatreds and animosities. But this philosophy is fundamentally flawed! It is ultimately naïve. It is as naïve as Chamberlain believing that giving the Sudetenland<sup>4</sup> to Hitler guaranteed peace in Europe.

Now, it is true that if I "walk a mile in your shoes", i.e., if I experience what it's like to live with hunger, or deal with a disease, or cope with prejudice, THEN it certainly will make me more empathetic, understanding, and a lot less judgmental. And I can, with great empathy, and even with genuine love, feed

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<sup>1</sup> A predecessor to the United Nations. It was the first international organization whose principal mission was to maintain world peace. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/League\\_of\\_Nations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/League_of_Nations)

<sup>2</sup> *It Takes a Village*. 1996. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Simon and Schuster, New York, NY. The book emphasizes the shared responsibility that society has for successfully raising children. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/It\\_Takes\\_a\\_Village](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/It_Takes_a_Village)

<sup>3</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I'd\\_Like\\_to\\_Teach\\_the\\_World\\_to\\_Sing\\_\(In\\_Perfect\\_Harmony\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I'd_Like_to_Teach_the_World_to_Sing_(In_Perfect_Harmony))  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VM2eLhvsSM>

<sup>4</sup> Pre-WWII German-speaking Czechoslovakia

or cloth or heal a person, who holds to a radically different worldview. This response is what Jesus Christ taught and lived out. But moving from personal love and benevolence to embracing a worldview is an irrational jump. Jesus loved and still loves messed up people; He felt empathy for them. He healed their illnesses, He fed the hungry, he renewed their broken bodies, he exorcised their demons... but He never approved of or accommodated their often-sinful philosophies. On the contrary, He commanded, *Go and sin no more* (John 8:11). A simple act of love and humanity doesn't resolve worldview conflicts, anymore than it kept Jesus from being crucified! If it is incumbent upon us to compromise our belief set to accommodate everyone else's belief set, then everyone ends up believing everything, which reduces to nothing.

The real issue in our world is a fundamental disagreement on what is Real, Absolute, and Unchanging. I will call these PRINCIPLES capital-T TRUTH. If everyone insists that their truth is The Truth, then there is no hope for unity and cooperation. And then there are some who insist that there is No Truth at all. The bottom line is that without Universal Truth, a Truth that exists outside of and rises above the Human Experience or the Human Intellect, there can be no Reality; it all boils down to my conviction vs. your conviction, my preference vs. your preference. From these illogical irrationalities, we come up with oxymoronic terms like "relative truth" and "alternative truth".

Until this World accepts our Creator's Truth as THE STANDARD, and His Written Word as THE PRINCIPLES by which all other ideas are judged, then we have no hope. Friends, God's Word is Truth (John 17:17); it is Reality. And Jesus the Christ was the Author and the Embodiment of Truth. He proclaimed, *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me* (John 14:6). Until we accept that, we will continue to hate, fight, war, and kill. Mankind has not discovered the way, and he will never discover the way, because there IS no other Way than the Savior!

God bless and consider!