# THE POWER OF THE TRUTH IN A WORLD OF LIES

"And you will know the truth, and that truth will set you free" - Jesus June 5, 2023

## If Everything is True, Then Nothing is True

"Time and truth are friends, although there are many moments hostile to truth." - Joseph Joubert

Truth is when a statement, idea, or point of view actually fits the way the world is; it corresponds to the world in which we live.

2 types of truth: <u>Subjective</u> & <u>Objective</u>

1 John 2:21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because **no lie comes from the truth**.

The Impossibility of Relativism

Relativism is the natural outgrowth of believing that all truth is subjective.

"That is true for you." "It is wrong for you to judge." "Don't force your beliefs on me." Many people claim to believe relativism, but they cannot live it out in their lives.

The message of the Gospel is easily overlooked when we share it as subjectively true.

"This is just my personal belief." "It makes me feel better." "It is just the way I was raised."

1 Timothy 2:7

for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am **telling the truth**, I am <u>not lying</u>—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

### The Inconsistency of Religious Relativism

#### "All religions are basically the same."

"Exclusive claims of different religions turn out, upon closer examination, to be variations of universal truths."

"Religions with mutually exclusive truth claims are equally valid."

If Truth exists, then by its very definition, it is exclusive.

John 17:17 "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."

### Learning Tolerance

"You are intolerant if you think those who disagree with you are wrong."

If tolerance requires that we all agree, then what is there to tolerate?

"Tolerance implies a respect for another person, not because he is wrong or even because he is right, but because he is human." - John Cogley

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. James 3:9-10