

Unpopular Opinion February 12, 2023
Abundant Life in a Broken World

Often times when people look at Christianity (the Bible), unfortunately they see it as much more hypocritical, judgmental, discriminatory; but Kings Circle, we're trying to unify the Willamette Valley around the overwhelming love & forgiveness of Jesus."

It's more important now than ever for the real, authentic Jesus to be represented in the public marketplace as He is in the Bible.

We believe the Bible is our foundation, absolute truth; that Jesus is Truth

John 14:6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, & the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me."

John 17:17 Make them holy by Your truth; teach them Your word, which is truth.

What if you don't believe in absolute truth? Don't believe the Bible? What about science & reason? Or popular opinion? Or my feelings?

The idea of ultimate truth is gone. "This is MY truth..."

John 8:31 Jesus said to the people who believed in Him, "You are truly My disciples if you remain faithful to My teachings. 32 And you'll know the truth, & the truth will set you free."

God's Word of absolute truth is essential to abundant life!

2 Peter 1:19 TPT We've been given the prophetic word - the written message of the prophets, made more reliable & fully validated by *the confirming voice of God on the Mount of Transfiguration*. You will continue to do well if you stay focused on it. *This prophetic message* is like a piercing light shining in a gloomy place until the dawning of a new day, when the Morning Star rises in your hearts. 20 You must understand this at the outset: Interpretation of scriptural prophecy *requires the Holy Spirit*, for it does not originate from someone's own imagination. 21 No true prophecy comes from human initiative but is inspired by the moving of the Holy Spirit upon those who spoke the message that came from God.

Booker T. Washington was born into slavery & rose to become a dominant leading African American intellectual in the 19th century; founded Tuskegee University; an educator, author, orator, & advisor to several US presidents said, “A lie doesn’t become truth, wrong doesn’t become right, & evil doesn’t become good, just because it’s accepted by a majority.”

The Bible has proven, through scientific textual analysis & evidence, to be more historically & archaeologically accurate than any other ancient book

Ephesians 1:13 You Gentiles have also heard *the truth, the Good News that God saves you*. And when you believed in Christ, He identified you as His own by giving you the Holy Spirit...

When absolute truth (God’s Word) is abandoned, the void is filled w/ conflict, chaos, & confusion.

Colossians 2:2 AMP My hope is that their hearts may be encouraged as they’re knit together in unselfish love, so they may have all the riches that come from the full assurance of understanding the joy of salvation, resulting in a *true* & more intimate knowledge of the mystery of God, that is Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom & knowledge regarding the word & purposes of God. ⁴ I say this so that no one will deceive you w/ persuasive but thoroughly deceptive arguments. ⁵ Even though I’m absent from you in body, nevertheless I’m w/ you in spirit, delighted to see your good discipline as you stand shoulder to shoulder & form a *solid front* & to see the stability of your faith in Christ (*your steadfast reliance on Him & your unwavering confidence in His power, wisdom, & goodness*). ⁶ Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in union w/ Him; reflecting His character in the things you do & say -living lives that lead others away from sin; ⁷ having been deeply rooted in Him & now being continually built up in Him & becoming increasingly more established in your faith, just as you were taught, & overflowing in it w/ gratitude. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy & empty deception (*pseudo-intellectual babble*), according to the tradition & musings of mere men, following the elementary principles of this world, rather than following the truth - the teachings of Christ.

Human philosophies have corrupted many people's understanding of the truth of God's Word. The moment we accept man's word over God's Word, we are no longer following God.

Psalm 119:160 The very essence of Your words is truth; all Your just regulations will stand forever.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God proves true. He is a shield to all who come to Him for protection.

We have God's resumé (The Bible) & we are His references

1 John 5:20 We know that the Son of God has come, & He has given us understanding so that we can know the **true** God. *(the one who is true)* Now we live in fellowship w/ the **true** God because we live in fellowship w/ His Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only **true** God, & He is eternal life.