

Unpopular Opinion February 5, 2023
Abundant Life in a Broken World

Matthew 7:24 “Anyone who listens to My teaching & follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 25 Though the rain comes in torrents & the floodwaters rise & the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. 26 But anyone who hears My teaching & doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. 27 When the rains & floods come & the winds beat against that house, it will collapse w/ a mighty crash.”

Psalm 127:1a Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted.

Proverbs 24:3 A house is built by wisdom & becomes strong through good sense. 4 Through knowledge its rooms are filled w/ all sorts of precious riches & valuables.

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.

BUT 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. Three out of four Americans say there is no such thing as absolute truth. Many so called Christians too. Ultimate truth is an old tale, an outdated idea, an insult to our intelligence

Believe whatever you want. Do whatever seems best to you. Live for whatever brings you pleasure, as long as it doesn’t hurt anyone. And of course, be tolerant. Don’t try to tell anyone that their truth is wrong.

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.**”

Nope, we’re just 6 billion organisms w/ nothing unifying to believe in. It’s every man for himself. We’re without a purpose; if there’s no true story of where we came from & why we’re here, then there’s nothing that really gives our lives meaning. It’s depressing, & frightening.

Ephesians 1:13 Now 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, whom He promised long ago.

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

Colossians 2:2b ...I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God’s mysterious plan, which is Christ Himself. 3 In Him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom & knowledge. 4 I’m telling you this so no one will deceive you w/ well-crafted arguments. 5 For though I’m far away from you, my heart is w/ you. I rejoice that you’re living as you should & that your faith in Christ is strong. 6 And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. 7 Let your roots grow down into Him, & let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, & you will overflow w/ thankfulness. 8 Don’t let anyone capture you w/ empty philosophies & high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking & from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. 9 For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. 10 So you also are complete through your union w/ Christ, who is the head over every ruler & authority.

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

The Bible is the most influential book in human history. 66 books. Written over 1000 years. Over 40 different authors.

Q - WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

A - “**God** wrote the Bible.” *The Holy Spirit moved prophets like Moses & apostles like Paul to write about God’s relationship w/ humanity.*

2 Peter 1:19 ...we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place - until the day dawns, & Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet’s own understanding, ²¹ or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, & they spoke from God.

The Bible has proven, through scientific textual analysis, to be more historically & archaeologically accurate than any other ancient book. There’s more evidence for the authenticity & accuracy of the Scriptures than for any other ancient book.

The Bible’s text is inspired by God; He used selected humans to write its original words, the precise message that God intended for us to know.

BIBLE PROJECT VIDEO

Many powerful men over the centuries have tried to discredit or destroy the Bible. All have failed.

Isaiah 28:16 This is what the Sovereign Lord says: “Look! I’m placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm & tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken

2 Timothy 3:15 You’ve been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, & they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God & is useful to teach us what is true & to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong & teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare & equip His people to do every good work.

Romans 1:18 AMP For [God does not overlook sin and] the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness & unrighteousness of men who in their wickedness suppress & stifle the truth,

John 3:31 “He has come from above & is greater than anyone else. We’re of the earth, & we speak of earthly things, but He’s come from heaven & is greater than anyone else. 32 He testifies about what He’s seen & heard, but how few believe what He tells them! 33 Anyone who accepts His testimony can affirm that God is true. 34 For He is sent by God. He speaks God’s words, for God gives Him the Spirit without limit. 35 The Father loves His Son & has put everything into His hands. 36 Anyone who believes in God’s Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn’t obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God’s angry judgment.”

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’s Word.

If we allow human philosophy to infiltrate our Biblical truth, then we’ll live in compromise & corruption.

Let’s continually seek the Holy Spirit’s help to stand against contradictory human philosophy.

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.