

“YOUR WORD IS... Truth”

On the day that Jesus was crucified, Pilate asked Him this question, “*What is truth?*” Jesus had earlier answered that question, once in a conversation with His disciples, and another time in a prayer to His Father. In John 14:6 Jesus taught His disciples, “*I AM the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me;*” and in John 17:17 Jesus prayed, “*Sanctify them by Your truth; Your Word is truth.*” So, what is truth? Jesus is truth, and God’s Word is truth.

It’s frightening to realize that many people reject the notion that there are absolute moral truths (truth that never changes but is the same through all the ages). It’s concerning that most people believe that truth is relative, that it easily changes, depending on the individual, situation, or one’s point of view. Such people are fond of saying, “What is true for you may not be true for me, and what is true for me may not be true for you.” The goalposts are constantly changing when everyone does what is right in their own eyes. There is no stability or foundational bedrock when people decide their own standards of what is right and wrong. The reason most people try to insist that there are no moral absolutes is so they can do whatever they want to do with no condemnation or judgment. But if there are moral absolutes, and if there is absolute truth (which we believe there is), then people who reject such do so at their own peril and consequence.

In John 18:36-37, Jesus revealed that the reason He was born and came into our world was to “*testify to the truth.*” And then He said, “*Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.*” That is what prompted Pilate to ask the question, “*What is truth?*” In His conversation with Pilate, Jesus revealed that He is in charge in the Kingdom of God. While people are given free-will on this planet to decide for themselves who will be in charge of their lives, when all is revealed, it will be shown that the only wise choice is to ask Jesus to be in charge, and to completely submit and surrender to His rule and reign. Most people want to be masters of their own lives, and when their will conflicts with God’s, they reject God’s ways and follow their own. People who choose their own ways want others to be tolerant of their choices, but they are not so kind when it comes to allowing people to hold positions that disagree with theirs.

I believe that all true Christians must accept this statement: **God’s absolute truth is revealed in His Son, Jesus Christ; and in the Bible, which is the Word of God.** When you hold to the teachings of Jesus and the Bible, that’s when you will know the truth; and it’s that truth that will set you free (see John 8:31-32). The reason most people reject God’s truth as absolute, is because they don’t want to live by it. They don’t want to change their lifestyle, or be condemned, judged, or convicted by the Word of God. So, they try to undermine the authority of the Bible, or say it’s not really the Word of God, or ignore it as irrelevant and try to put it out of their minds. When a person does that, they do so at their own peril – both in the here and now, and in the hereafter. Because God’s Word is absolute, we must accept it as such and act upon it, even when others say we’re being narrow-minded or intolerant. It doesn’t matter what kind of pressure we get from our world, we must absolutely embrace God’s absolute standard of truth as is revealed in Jesus and in the Bible.

Discussion Guide/Action Steps

1. Do you believe that the Bible is God's standard of absolute truth? Are you living like it?
2. Can you make this commitment? "If God says it, I believe it, and that settles it for me!"
3. Are you putting human intellect above God's Word and the Holy Spirit? Are you judging God and His Word through modern-day lenses? Or are you allowing Scripture to judge you?