The Importance of the Truth

What is truth? The American Heritage College Dictionary defines truth as this: "Conformity to fact or actuality"… in other words truth is the way it really is… it is not open to interpretation. It is black and white. There is no gray.

Modern Society has a problem with the truth and they have lost a handle on what it is, who actually defines it, and what its value is. We are caught up in a conundrum over what is truth and have we lost perspective on the objectivity of truth. Truth is not a relative thing, something is either true or it is not. It really is that simple… it is only when we introduce emotions, feelings, and personal spin on things that we cloud what is true. Society has done this to the extreme in the use of the prevalent "what is true for me may not be true for you" attitude that we see in everything. Someone once said, "there is no such thing as absolute truth"… that person did not stop to think that they were actually uttering an absolute truth. And there is the problem… minds have become so clouded with politically correct thinking and ideas of tolerance for anything that it is felt that truth cannot be known because my truth is not your truth… and that is just not true.

God tells us what He thinks of this type of thinking in **Isaiah 5:20-21**

What is truth?

God's word is truth… **John 17:17**, God's law is truth… **Psalms 119:142**, God's commandments are truth… **Psalms 119:151**, the entirety of God's word is truth…**Psalms 119:160**. God tells us that the scriptures contain the truth as He has declared it to us… all of the truth we have about everything around us and in us is to be found right there.

Who defines the truth?

God defines the truth and declares what is right… **Isaiah 45:19** and it is not in man to know how to direct his own steps… **Jeremiah 10:23**

The gospel came from God who is true and He gave it to Jesus… **John 8:26** and **John 12:49**

Jesus spoke only what God told him to and He was careful with the truth… He handled it with the utmost care that he might only do what pleased God… **John 8:28-29**

God created the physical things we see around us… every one of them. And He did this completely through the agency of Jesus Christ…**Colossians 1:16-17**. During this process God also created the physical laws, which we depend on for our lives such as the law of gravity, etc. We also have mathematical truths that we can know. Can you know how much money is in your checking account? Of course you can. If you are on Mars and you add 2 + 2 together will it not equal 4 the same as it does on the Earth? Of course it will. God created physical truths that we live by every day… why then is it so hard for

some people to see that the God of physical truths has created spiritual truths to govern our everyday conduct, and to give us a prospect for our salvation.

1 Timothy 3:15… The church is the pillar and ground of the truth… Christians have an awesome responsibility as members of the church. We are charged with the dissemination of the truth to the rest of humanity. This is a part of the Great Commission… no one else has the truth except the church. And we must share it…

What value does the truth have?

Proverbs 23:23… buy the truth and sell it not… it is valuable… but why? The truth sets us free from sin's bondage **John 8:32**… We are sanctified by it… set apart from the world by the truth…**John 17:17. Colossians 3:6** tells us to let the word dwell within us richly, and we see that we have been given treasure in the word of God… **1 Corinthians 4:7.** James tells us in **James 1:21** to receive the implanted word with meekness because it is able to save us.

Romans 8:16 tells us that the Holy Spirit dwells within us and marks us as God's children. The Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of Truth…**John 16:13**. The Holy Spirit cannot abide with those who are not God's children because the truth is not in them… **1 John 2:3-4**. So those who do not obey God's commands do not have the truth.

We must love the truth… because of its value, see "The Great Delusion" in **2 Thessalonians 2:10-12**

God's word is the only truth regarding the faith that Christians must have… and **John 12:48** tells us all will be judged by the words of Christ on the last day… we will all be weighed to see if the truth is in us. The truth will save us or condemn us… to be saved we must walk in the truth. Jesus is our savior; He is the way, the TRUTH and the life…**John 14:6**. We can only come to the Father through him because He is the truth. We can only go through Christ if we are in Him… and in order to be in Him, we must be baptized into His death where His shed blood can cleanse us of our sins… we know this from **Romans 6:3&4**, and **Acts 22:16**. The only salvation we have is **IN HIM** (**Romans 8:1**)… and that is the truth.