

Series: You Asked For It!

Title: Does It Matter What We Believe About the Church?

Text: (1 Tim 3:15) What the Church is.

What is the Standard of Truth in Our Lives?

Def. TRUTH~*Conformity to fact or reality;*

Exact accordance with that which is, or has been, or shall be.

What is the Standard of Truth in Our Lives?

The Facts, Reality, of what is, was, or will be.

That which all other things are compared to?

Your Traditions/Upbringing?

Parental Teachings & Example?

Your Logic or Reasoning?

For Christians: The Bible

All Information is to be compared to it. (Is 8:20)

All contrary to the Bible is to be rejected:

Is Truth Absolute?

Can Truth be Relative?

For Example: *My Truth, Your Truth, Truth to you, but not me?*

Relativism is the Basis today for Modern Liberalism.

The statement - "*All Truth is Relative*" is a Contradictory statement, bordering on Lunacy.

A Gaseous Sold. A Dry Bath. A Bright Darkness. Oxi-moron

The statement - "*All Truth is Relative*"

Statement posits an Absolute while denying Absolutes exist.

The opposite of this would be:

"Cartoon Characters are aloud to run for Senate offices"

Relativism has brought about a Radical Liberalism

We don't know what we are.

We don't know how to define Life.

We don't know how to define Sexuality Orientation.

We don't know how to define Marriage.

We don't know how to define Gender.

We don't know what pronouns to use.

We don't know how to define what bathroom to use.

Parents have indulged their children's whims & Fancies.

Children want to hold the authorities in their lives to absolutes

But they want us to indulge their Whims.

To where Parents have become advocates for their kids foolishness.

Indulged children are now running the American Homes.

America is on the verge of moral collapse by our own making

Truth is fixed, declaring it unfixed mutually excludes each other.

Can we be close to Absolute Truth as it still be Truth?

Def~*Conformity to fact or reality; exact accordance with that which is, or has been, or shall be.*

Can we be a comfortable distance away from the Truth and it be OK?

This is the Real Question at hand: Is being close OK?

Illus: College Motto: "The Truth Shall Make you Free"

California Institute of Technology

Huntington University

Johns Hopkins University

University of Freiburg Germany

St. Augustine's College Raleigh NC

Yonsei University S. Korea

University of Tennessee

What % of students know that Jesus said it?

What % know the context: (Jn 8:31-32) *If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

Do you believe that is what those colleges actually believe?
NO! *"Believe Our Truth and Be set free!"*

Truth is not Relative.

Truth cannot be unhinged from Absolutes.

Freedom comes from knowing Truth.

America is on the verge of Moral Collapse b/c we have turned our Back on God & His Word.

Truth comes from God: (Deut 32:4) *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.*

Truth has the same Attributes of God.

It either is Truth, or It isn't.

Why does God have to punish Sin,

B/c He would be sinful if He didn't.

Science is a Vital discipline, not a Moral Standard

But w/o God's Word as our Moral Standard of Truth,
We have used Science to Create Advanced Means to bring about Deteriorated Ends.

Science is a Blessing.

I am speaking to you today through Scientific Advances of sound., internet.

We came to church today because of Scientific Advances in transportation, The automobile.

We have heat & lights in church today because of Scientific Advances in Energy production & Energy delivery.

But Science cannot tell you WHY you ought to tell the truth about your findings w/o getting Metaphysical with their interpretation of the findings.

Morality is not in the prevue of the exact Sciences.

Philosophy tries to find the causes & Purposes of the Existences & Essence of All Things.

Philosophy offers us No Absolute Truth.

Science Cannot give you the Answers to the Fundamental Questions in life.

That Truth Only Comes from the Creator.

Who am I (and what am I worth?)

Where did I come from?

Why am I here?

Where am I going when I die?

Homes & Watson on a Camping Trip

Stars & Stars & More Stars. *What does that tell you?*

Astronomically we are living in Millions's of Galaxy with Billions of Planets.

Astrologically It tells me that Saturn is Gibbous Phase.

Orrologically it tells me that is it @ 2:45 am.

Meteorologically it tells me it is going to be a beautiful day.

Theologically we live in a Vast Universe/minute part of it.

Why? What does it tell you Holmes?

You Idiot, somebody has stolen our Tent.

With all the Giant words and Scientific disciplines available to kids today, The Average Student today cannot tell you what it means to be human; they do not know.

Ask them to define Gender, Sexuality, Meaning of Life.
They Do Not KNOW!

All the Information of Mankind in the palm of their hand but ability to define Life, Existence, Purpose, or Humanity escapes them.

Does Truth Matter?

Do you honestly care what is true?

What if the Truth contradicts your Convenience?

What if the Truth contradicts your Gender Identity?

What if the Truth contradicts your Declared Sexuality?

What if the Truth contradicts your Religious Traditions?

What if Truth contradicts your Denominational Upbringing?

What if Truth contradicts your Parents current practices?

Does it matter What we Believe?

NO, Not If you don't care what is True.

Does it Matter to YOU what you believe?

Does it Matter to You if you believe what is Truth?

The Bible declares itself to be the Truth!

(2 Tim 3:16-17)

(Ps 119:160)

Is it OK if we are just CLOSE to what the Bible teaches?

Near Beer? Non-Alcoholic Beer?

How About NEAR-TRUTH?

Examples of NEAR Truth:

Cain vs Abel's Offering:

Nadab & Abihu offering Strange Fire: (Lev 10:1-2)

Workers of Iniquity: (Mat 7:21-23) I never knew you!

Is the Bible your Final Authority?

Are we aligning our lives to the Bible?

OR... Are we trying to align the bible to our lives?

(Is 8:20)

Does it Matter if YOU Obey the Truth?

If you say...NO it doesn't matter?

You just said you don't care what God thinks.

Does it Matter to God if You Obey what is True?

(Matt 7:24-27) *We are foolish & headed for destruction.*

(John 4:24) *Worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.*

(Ps 145:18) *call upon Him in Truth.*

Obedience to God's Word is Worship!

The Christian Life is NOT:

How close to sin can I live & God still bless me?

The Christian Life is NOT:

What can I get away with & God work in my life?

The Christian Life IS:

How close can I get to God so He will use me Most?

(1 Pet 1:15-16) *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*

God Hates False Teaching: (Rev 2:14-15)

(Matt 5:19) Hang a Millstone around his neck...

We are to Avoid those who teach contrary to the Bible:

(Rom 16:17-18)

They have been around so long, they must be true. NO!

Satan created a new religion for Adam & Eve 6500 yrs ago.

(2 Cor 11:4)

(Gal 1:6-9) Falsehood is often presented as Truth.

Not Everything we have heard, or been led to believe is Truth.
It sounds spiritual, but it is NOT Scriptural.

Do You want to know the Truth taught in the Bible?

What if it contradicts what you believe?

What if it contradicts what you were taught?

What if it contradicts your Denomination?

What if it contradicts your parent's beliefs?

YOU ASKED FOR IT! - TODAY'S QUESTIONS:

Why does FBCK practice the Lord's Supper the way we do?

Our practice of the Lord's Supper is based on the Bible's teaching and Our Lord's Example.

Big Deal: Everybody Claims that.

THEN: Why are We SO Different from other Churches?

I can't speak for other churches, but I CAN for us.

**First! - Does it matter to you what the bible teaches?
Does it Matter to YOU what you believe about the Lord's Supper? Or Any Other Topic?**

Well it was good enough for Mom and Dad, so it is good enough for ME.

There is no point in looking at the bible then,
Mom & Dad is Your Standard of Truth.

I like the way our denomination taught it.
There is no point in looking at the bible then,
Your denomination is Your Standard of Truth.

Our practice of the Lord's Supper is based on

The Bible's teaching of the Lord's Supper

The Bible's Definition of the Church

& Our Lord's Example as found in the Bible.

The definition of the Church has a great bearing on this.

**BUT: Does it Matter to YOU what the Bible Teaches??
Does it Matter to YOU what you believe about the Church**
Do you want the Truth?

OR: Are you only interested in being CLOSE to the truth.
I am willing to walk you through the Bible Teachings!

BUT this has to get settled first.

What's The Big Deal?

Why does this have to be a dividing point amongst believers?

(1 Cor 11:2) The Bible Teaches that The Carrying out of the 2 Church Ordinances (Baptism/Lord's Supper) are not subject to Modification.

They are to be observed as Jesus did it. (1 Cor 11:23-25)
They are to be observed as Apostles did it. (Acts 2:42)
(1 Cor 11:1)

The Lord's Supper is a Church Ordinance, not a Christian Ordinance.

How do you know that?

What was Jesus' Example in the Bible?

When was it observed?

Tuesday night before Easter. (Matt 12:39-40)
Lord's Supper is our Feast. (1 Cor 5:7-8)

Who Partook of it? The Church.

The Apostles: (Matt 26:26-30)(Mk 14:22-25)
Where was the Owner of the House & His Family?
Where was Mary Magdeline?
Where was Mary Jesus' Mother & Brethren?
The Apostles were the 1st Church.

What did the Apostles Teach?

(1 Cor 11:18) *when ye come together in the church,*
(1 Cor 11:20) *When ye come together therefore into one place*
(1 Cor 11:33) *"when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another."*

What is the Church?

What does the Bible Teach the Definition of the Church is?

Here is what the Bible Says...

(1 Tim 3:15) What the Church is.
(Eph 3:21) God gets glory through His Church.
(Eph 4:11-14) – Has a divine purpose - a Reason!
God has a plan in mind for each church member.
God's plan is to be done through the church.

What is the Church to You? *Illus- My early memories was a musty basement and hard pews, and I couldn't color or draw.*

What is it to you?

A building?
A group of precious people?

What is it to God?

The church is A Glorious Thing: (Eph 5:27)
The Church is A Holy Thing: (Eph 5:27)

We better know what it is and what it is like!

Our society is falling apart Morally because it is falling apart Spiritually.

When did The Church Start? – Not in the Old Testament

Established – (1 Cor 12:28) – 1st the Apostles

Not on Peter – (Matt 16:18) *"Upon this Rock"*

(Ps 89:29) *"rock of my salvation"*

(I Sam 2:2) *"Not any rock like our God"*

(1 Cor 3:11) Christ is the foundation - *Founded upon*

Not created in the Upper Room – (Jn 20:19-22)

Already had a Treasurer: Already had a commission:

(Eph 2:19-20) – build on Apostles and Christ
"Foundation" Means founded upon

When did it start? (Lk 6:12-16) also in (Mark 3:13-14)
With whom did he spend 3 years teaching – the 12
With whom did he establish the Lord's Supper – the 11
With whom did he give the Commission to – the 11

The church was known by its location such as in ...

(1 Cor 1:2) "*Unto the church of God which is at Corinth,*";
(2 Cor 1:1) " *.....the church of God which is at Corinth,*";
(Col 4:16) "*the church of the Laodiceans;*";
(1 Thess 1:1) "*the church of the Thessalonians* ";
(2 Thess 1:1) "*the church of the Thessalonians* "

It is a Local visible assembly of people:

EKKLESIA is translated church. or churches.

Def. of EKKLESIA

A Local, Visible Assembly of people for a specific purpose.
(i.e. Town Hall Meeting)

114 References: Not 1 time used to mean a Universal,
Invisible Body of Believers.

Every Reference is speaking about a local visible body,
Or All churches everywhere, no church in particular.

How do I become a part of this thing? *Illus: the lady who bought the house across for the church in Dunlap.*

1. **Have to be saved!** (Acts 8:36-37)
2. **Have to be baptized:** (Acts 2:41) Adds us to the local church.

**Is a Local, Visible Assembly of Baptized Believers
Baptism Protects the Church from Without!**

There are several things we need to notice about baptism.

- a. Always seen after Salvation. (Acts 8:37)(Acts 2:41)

- b. Water is used - (John 1:33)
- c. There was much water - (John 3:23)
- d. There is the going down into the water - (Acts 8:38)
Immersion
- e. Pictures a burial in water - (Rom 6:4,5)
- f. There is the 'coming up out of water' - (Matt 3:16; Acts 8:39)

If this is where He gets Glory – (Eph 3:21)

If this what Christ gave himself for it – (Eph 5:25)

If this is a glorious thing – (Eph 5:27)

If it is a Holy thing – (Eph 5:27)

He did not create this thing for no reason

This is where He expects a Divine Purpose to be
Accomplished – (Eph 4:11-12)

We are to Bring him Glory (Eph 3:21) –

Bring Him Glory by Fulfilling His Purpose (Eph 4:11-19)

(Matt 28:19-20) Great commission (John 20:21)

(2 Tim 2:2) be a multiplying Disciple!

**The Purpose of the Lord's Supper is to Remember the
great Sacrifice God made for our Sins.**

(Lk 22:19)(1 Cor 11:24-26)

**The Purpose of the Lord's Supper is to protect the church
from within.**

(1 Cor 11:27-32)

This is why it is Members Only!

This is why it is 1-2 times a year.

Why the Church Covenant:

Is it found in the Bible?

Not Word for Word, but in Principle.

(1 Cor 5:1-5) (*2)

(1 Cor 5:9-13) (*11,13)

(2 Thes 3:*6-7)

(2 Thes 3:11-15) (*14)

The Christian Life is NOT:

How close to sin can I live & God still bless me?

The Christian Life is NOT:

What can I get away with & God work in my life?

The Christian Life IS about ...

How close can I get to God so He will use me Most?

(1 Pet 1:15-16) *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*