

## “The Truth As We Know It”

### What is truth?

1/25/15

Today I want to talk about the need to always teach the truth in our presentation of the Gospel.

This is a question that has troubled men for thousands of years. Pilot asked Jesus; "What is truth?"

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Only in Jesus do we find truth.

The Apostle Paul warns us of the trend to accept fables as truth in the latter days. In 2 Timothy 4: He tells us to, "Preach the word;.. reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, because they have itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. "

Is that where we are today in the Christian Church of America?

We need to look at what the Bible says about how to establish truth in our teaching the Gospel.

There are several simple guides we need to follow.

1. God's truth does not evolve with time.

Psalms 100:5 ... his truth endures to all generations.

One fundamental truth is that God does not change. So we can bank on that fact in all our considerations of what we believe.

Malachi 3:6 For I am the LORD, I change not;

Ecclesiastes 3:14-15, "I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth *it*, that *men* should fear before him. That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requires that which is past."

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from

the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

If something was ever Biblically true, then it still is. When we begin to accept the popular trends of the culture as our guide for truth, we become like a ship on the troubled sea without an anchor. Adrift with the whims of the cultural winds that come our way. The jagged rocks waiting to bring shipwreck just ahead. The Bible will stand when all else fails!

2. Biblical truth can only be established by the witness of two or three witnesses: (Scripture references) We should not establish doctrine on the bases of only one scripture verse. Only when there are two or more Bible references with no contradictions can we know we have arrived at sound doctrine.

Paul tells us in 2Co 13:1 ... "In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."

In 2Ti 2:15 it tell us we are to: "Study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Has the Christian church allowed popular trends to determine what we teach? Should we take a fresh look at what is truly sound doctrine and return to simple truths of the Bible regardless of the personal cost.

Paul tells us that the church is to be the pillar and ground of the truth.

1Ti 3:15 But if I tarry long, that you may know how thou ought to behave yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Only the Bible can be depended on to stand when judgment comes. Jesus tells: in Mat 5:18 .. "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

As this program develops over time we want to look at the many different thoughts that are being taught in the Christian church. I challenge all of us to do our own research to see if what we are teaching is indeed sound doctrine or if it is based on the current cultural trends or established fables.

The Bible teaches us that standing for truth can be very costly in family relations. in Pro 23:23 we read: "Buy the truth, and sell it not."

Jesus said that taking a stand with Him could separate us from the love of family. In Mat 10:34 He said: "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

And a man's foes shall be they of his own household."

Sometimes when we take a stand for truth, even our family may not understand, but we are asked to take a stand anyway.

A vital part of the great armor of God is have our loins covered with truth.

Eph 6:11-18, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,

Our loins imply our posterity, our children. We have the great responsibility to teach our children the truth always. When we teach fables to our children, why should they believe us when we try to teach them the truth?

**Deu 6:1-7** "Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it: That you might fear the LORD your God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, you, and your son, and your son's son, all the days of your life; and that your days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do *it*; that it may be well with you, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of your fathers hath promised thee, in the land that flows with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in your heart: And you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up."

We are to diligently teach our children the truths of God so that our days as a Christian nation can be prolonged far into the future.

I love this passage in Psalms 78:2-6 where he talks about generations yet unborn. Decisions we make today affect generations far into the future.

Psalms 78:2-6 "I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide *them* from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know *them*, even the children *which* should be born; *who* should arise and declare *them* to their children:"

The greatest responsibility we have as parents is to pass on to the next generation our values and our faith in God. Our lives are like a relay race, we live our lives and hand the baton off to the next generation to carry on what we have believed. The race is often won or lost in the hand-off! We need to ask ourselves, How well are we doing in passing on our faith to our children?"

In closing.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. There is no other name under heaven on whom we can call. Atheism is a temporary condition for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Jesus stands ready to save you now, Will you call on Him today?

Until Next week, God bless you.