

What Is Your Attitude Toward The Truth?

Text: John 8:32, 17:17

Introduction:

The Awful Truth

—Albert Mohler

The massacre of 32 students and teachers on the campus of Virginia Tech University forces us once again to confront the reality of moral evil. The moral category of evil is indispensable in this case--requiring us to make a firm moral judgment about the heinous, murderous, grotesque, abhorrent actions that now seizes the nation's conscience.

*The late Alan Bloom wrote twenty years ago that "**There is one thing a professor can be absolutely certain of: almost every student entering the university believes, or says he believes, that truth is relative.**"*

Well, look into those stunned and hurting faces of students at Virginia Tech. Those are not the faces of moral relativists. They know the awful truth. These acts were evil.

*The tragic reality is that this one man caused death and pain beyond human calculation on his murderous rampage. Let's pray for these grieving families and a traumatized campus--and let's remember that the difference between good and evil **really matters**.*

Relative truth (the philosophy of Relativism, *which is being taught today most of our university systems*) is a moral philosophy that is wreaking havoc in our modern society. Relativism says that in the evolutionary and naturalistic universe nothing is fixed and definite. Nothing "governs" the universe except chance. Therefore, why should one expect to find absolutes for moral issues? The **relativist says that absolutes are impossible**. He says what is arbitrarily considered to be wrong today can be right tomorrow.

1. Truth seems to hold **little value** today; the prevailing rule of thumb is to **not trust anybody nor believe in anything**.
2. Today, as in the past, "*Truth is fallen in the street*" (**Isaiah 59:14**). Therefore, as strange as it may sound to our ears, there's **a real need today to talk about true truth. True truth is not relative but absolute. True truth is true even if we don't think it's true.** In other words, true truth is always true.
3. Jesus said **His word is truth - John 8:32 - yet most reject His Word.**
4. This morning we will discuss why, and what our attitudes should be towards the truth.

I. Reasons some reject the truth

- A. **Ignorance** - cannot obey the unknown - but of little application for us because the Bible is widely distributed, because God wants it to be - **1 Timothy 2:1-4; Acts 17:30,31**
- B. **People do not comprehend** the truth because:
 - 1. - **of prejudice** [*my mind is made up*] - “*I know what I believe*”
- Pharisees would not accept the works of Jesus
 - 2. - **not wise** - **1 Corinthians 1:18** - faith is unpopular concept
 - 3. - **man wants to know why** - **Isaiah 55:8-11** - we cannot think or work as God does
- **Jeremiah 18:3-6** - as Creator, God *doesn't have to justify Himself* to us
- C. The **truth is not popular** - **2 Timothy 4:3,4** - some will only listen to what they want to hear.
- D. **Love men more than God** - **John 12:42,43** - and fear men more - **Matthew 10:28**

II. Proper attitudes towards truth

- A. **Know** the truth - **John 8:32; 2 Timothy 3:14,15**
- B. **Value** the truth - **Proverbs 23:23; Matthew 13:44-46**
- C. **Live** the truth - **John 14:6; 1 John 1:5-7**
- D. **Love** and **defend** the truth - like Elijah - **1 Kings 18:21,22** - apostles - **Acts 4,5** - heroes of past 200 years

Conclusion:

1. What is **your attitude** toward truth?
2. Not toward traditional Church of Christ teaching, but **the Bible** itself?
3. How much does it **affect your life**?