

The Importance and Relevance of Truth

Text: Psalm 86

- A. Truth is the most vital possession any civilization can have (**Proverbs 23:23**).
1. How would we know $2+2=4$ without a truth?
 2. How would we know what is right and wrong?
 3. How would we know anything without the idea of truth (how do you know you are here?)?
- B. What is truth (**John 18:38**)? **4 things**:
1. **God**—**2 Chronicles 15:3, 1 Thessalonians 1:9**
 2. **Christ**—**Ephesians 4:21, John 14:6**
 3. **Holy Spirit**—**1 John 5:6**
 4. **God's Word**—**John 17:17, Psalm 119:160, 142**
- C. How could we define truth?
1. Right, upright (**Psalm 19:8, 119:128**)
 2. Just (**Revelation 15:3**).
 3. Trustworthy (**Proverbs 3:5-6, Job. 13:15**).
 4. Perfect (**James 1:25**).
- I. **The Importance of Truth.**
- A. Truth is important because of modern relativism (**John 18:38, Jeremiah 7:28, 9:3**).
1. Relativism says that truth is subjective. What may be true for me may not be true for you or anyone else. However, this is a false view for these reasons:
 - a. There are universal standards of truth in Math, Science, Law, and Religion.
 - b. God does not change (**Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8**).
 - c. His Word is meant to be the universal standard (**John 7:17, 2 Peter 3:1, 2**).
 - d. Therefore, truth does not change with a person, but a person changes to truth.
- B. Truth is important because of man's inability to direct himself (**Jeremiah 10:23, Proverbs 16:25, Jeremiah 6:16**). The word gives me ultimate direction in life.
1. It tells me how I got here (**Genesis 1:1, Psalm 19:1**).
 2. It tells me why I am here (**Ecclesiastes 12:13, Isaiah 43:7**)
 3. It tells me where I am going (**Matthew 25:46**).
- C. The truth is important because it can set us free (**John 8:32, 36**).
1. Free from bondage to Satan (**Romans 6:17, Exodus 3&4**).
 2. Free from sin (**Romans 6:14, 1 Peter 1:22**).
 3. Free to obey Christ (**Galatians 5:1, 13, James 1:21, Romans 1:25**).

- D. Truth is important because of the abundance of error being taught today (**John 8:44, Isaiah 30:10, 5:13**).
1. Error on Marriage – Divorce – Remarriage —**Matthew 19**
 2. Error on Salvation.
 3. Error on worship.
- E. Truth is important because preaching the truth pleases God (**2 Timothy 4:2, Acts 20:28, Titus 2:1, 1 Timothy 4:15-16, Ephesians 4:15, Jeremiah 20:9, 2 Chronicles 18:13, 1 Corinthians 9:16**).

II. The Relevance of Truth.

A. Relevant to modern moral problems

1. Abortion- **Exodus 21**
2. Euthanasia—**Zechariah 12:1, Hebrews 12:9**
3. Divorce—**Malachi 2:16, Genesis 2:24**

B. Relevant to modern psychological problems.

1. Worry/anxiety—**Philippians 4:7, 1 Peter 5:7**, do not worry
2. Discouragement—**Luke 18:1, 2 Kings 17-19** Elijah
3. Grief—**1 Thessalonians 4:13, John 11:35**

C. Relevant to Physical problems.

1. Lung Cancer—**1 Corinthians 6:19-20**
2. Stomach problems **1 Timothy 5:23**
3. Cure for AIDS—**Hebrews 13:4, 1 Corinthians 7:3-4**
4. Cure for liver problems—**Ephesians 5:18**

D. Mostly Relevant to spiritual problems (Genesis 3-4, Acts 2:36, 2:37-38, John 3:16**).**

Conclusion:

1. Truth is a great blessing from God which directs our path - **Psalm 119:105**.
2. Do not believe or accept the uncertain sounds of unbelief which undermine faith in the truth and understanding of God's holy word! - **Psalm 119:104, 130**
3. Is the truth of God valuable to you?
4. If so, you need to live by it. Why not start living by it today?