

Truth: Can we know it; Where do we find it?

John 8:31-55

Truth is getting harder to recognize! Deception has always been a part of the enemy's plan, but today deception is almost unrecognizable. With the alarming advancements in Artificial Intelligence and facial and voice recognition, it may be difficult to know if what we "see and hear" is actually valid and legitimate.

As a society we have become obsessed with technology! We worship the "tech-god" without considering the driving motivation for our desire or the end result of our pursuit.

Truth is Theological. In his book, *Truth Wars*, written in 2007, John MacArthur defined truth this way:

Truth is that which is consistent with the mind, will, character, glory, and being of God. Even more to the point: Truth is the self-expression of God. That is the biblical meaning of truth.

Because the definition of truth flows from God, truth is theological. (Deu 32:3-4 & Psalm 31:5)

Augustine, probably the greatest theologian of the first millennium, expresses it in several places. In his book, *On Christian Doctrine*, for example, he writes, "Nay, but let every good and true Christian understand that wherever truth may be found, it belongs to his Master." (II.18)

Famously attributed quote, "all truth is God's truth."

Truth is a Person. (John 8:32, John 8:40, John 8:45, and John 14:6)

Jesus spoke the Truth because He is the Truth! He is the embodiment of Truth because God is Truth!

Truth is knowable. (8:31-32) Jesus was speaking to those Jews that believed in Him! Jesus conditioned the validity of their faith by their continuing in His word, which would enable them to know the truth, therefore experiencing freedom from sin.

Scripture clearly communicates Truth in a manner that is comprehensible, understandable, and knowable. We can, we should, we are able to know Truth! (John 14:15-17, John 15:26, John 16:13, and John 17:17)

Truth is a big deal to the Apostle John! Matthew used the word 3 times, Mark used it 3 times, Luke used it 5 times, but John used it 22 times! And he used it 9 times in the short letter of 1 John.

Truth is liberating. (32b-36) Jesus was speaking Truth and this Truth is necessary for our Spiritual deliverance. Jesus speaks the Truth concerning sin and the slavery that it possesses. Truth is often resisted, renounced, and rejected, even when spoken by the God of Truth Himself. (8:37)

AW Pink, "A truth that the natural man cannot tolerate is being told he is not free, that very announcement stirs up enmity within him."

Martin Lloyd Jones, "The world lies in unutterable slavery, Oh the power of this darkness."

Why do we continue to do things that hurt us? Things we know are wrong. Things that bring about pain and great consequences. Yet we continue in them! Sin's power is great!

"If the Son makes you free, you are free indeed." Jesus frees us from both the penalty of sin but also the power of sin. One day He will free us from even the presence of sin!

Questions to consider: Are you a genuine disciple of Christ? Are you ordering your life in accord with the Truth of God's Word? If you are not a follower of Christ yet, will you begin to search for the Truth?

A pursuit of Truth will inevitably lead you to the Person of Christ! (John 5:39-40)