

What Is Truth?

John 18:32-38

Introduction:

- A. A question associated with controversy.
 - 1. Pilate caught in middle of controversy: Jews vs Jesus.
 - 2. Often, we are forced to ask and answer, “What is truth?”
- B. Let’s examine common *methods* of determining truth on religious and moral questions:

Discussion:

I. Truth by Imagination.

- A. Truth is not determined by what seems right to us. (Prov. 14:12).
 - 1. Naaman (2 Kings 5:1-12).
 - 2. Saul of Tarsus (Acts 26:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:13)
- B. We cannot trust our hearts alone for truth. (Jer. 17:9)
 - 1. Can be self-deceived (Gal. 6:3; Jas 1:26).
 - 2. Suppositions can be tragically wrong. (Luke 2:44; Acts 16:27)

II. Truth by Accommodation.

- A. To many, truth must accommodate existing situations. (Cf. Acts 19:25-28)
 - 1. True of many subjects: The church, baptism, marriage, etc.
 - 2. Truth should determine situations, not situations the truth.
- B. To many, truth must accommodate existing sentiments.
 - 1. Formed by long-standing traditions. (Cf. Matt. 15:9).
 - 2. Formed by emotions rather than facts. (Cf.; Acts 22:21, 22)

III. Truth by Revelation.

- A. God’s word is truth (John 17:17; Psa. 119:160 ASV, NKJ)
- B. Spirit guided Apostles into *all* truth (John 16:13)
 - 1. They wrote, we read (Eph. 3:1-5).
 - 2. We believe through their word. (John 17:20)
- C. Search Scriptures to determine truth. (Acts 17:11)
- D. Let God be true and every man a liar. (Rom. 3:4)

Conclusion:

- A. Let us seek truth at all cost – buy it and sell it not (Prov. 23:23)
- B. Let us love the truth above all else. (2 Thess. 2:9-12)
- C. Let determine the truth by the facts – “What saith the scriptures?”