

LIVING IN A CULTURE OF TRUTH DECAY?, PART 2
Sermon Outline
Sermon Series: Truth — How Do You It When You Hear It?
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How Do We Know What Is True?

1. Through God's _____ > by simply looking around the _____.

- † *Romans 1:20*, "Opposition to truth cannot be excused on the basis of ignorance, because from the creation of the world, the invisible qualities of God's nature have been made visible, such as His eternal power and transcendence. He has made His wonderful attributes easily perceived, for seeing the visible makes us understand the invisible. So then, this leaves everyone without excuse" (TPT).

Truths We Learn About God From Creation

- (a) God likes _____.
(b) God is _____.
(c) God is _____.

- † *Romans 1:19*, "The basic reality of God is plain enough. Open your eyes and there it is" (MSG).

2. Through my _____ > there are some things that are hard wired in us by God.

- † *Romans 2:14-15*, Some people naturally obey God's commands even though they don't have the law ¹⁵This proves that the conscious is like a law written in the human heart and it will show whether we are forgiven or condemned" (CEV).
† *Romans 2:14-15*, "When outsiders who have never heard of God's law follow it more or less by instinct, they confirm its truth by their obedience. ¹⁵This shows that God's law is not something alien, imposed on us from without. But it's woven into the very fabric of our creation. There's something deep within us that echoes God's yes and no, right and wrong" (MSG).."

3. Through evaluative _____ > truth is something that is knowable, intellectual, observable and testable.

- † *Proverbs 4:26*, "Ponder the path of your feet" (NKJV).
† *Proverbs 14:8*, "The prudent understand where they are going, but fools deceive themselves" (NLT).
† *Proverbs 14:15*, "A foolish person will believe anything. But a wise person thinks about what he does" (ICB).
† *John 3:33*, Jesus said, "Anyone who examines this evidence will come to stake his life on this. That God Himself is the truth" (MSG).

How Do I Know A Teacher Is Teaching The Truth?

- (a) Examine the teacher's _____.

- † *Matthew 7:15-16a*, Jesus said, "Beware of false teachers. ¹⁶You can detect them by the way they act just as you can identify a tree by its fruit" (TLB).
† *Matthew 7:16*, Jesus said, "Don't be impressed with charisma. Look for character. Who preachers and teachers are is the main thing not what they say" (MSG).
● Charisma is highly overrated, folks. Charisma has nothing to do with leadership except it is an impediment to it. The three most charismatic leaders of the twentieth century were also the worst – Mao, Stalin, and Hitler. They were extremely charismatic men, but very evil men. They are the result of millions and millions of deaths. Charisma is highly overrated. Look for _____ not _____.

- † *Matthew 7:20*, "Jesus said, "The way to identify a tree or a person is by the kind of fruit produced" (TLB).

- (b) Listen to the _____ while you're listening to a teacher.

- † *John 14:16-17*, Jesus said, "The Father will give you another Helper who will stay with you forever. ¹⁷He is THE Spirit who reveals the truth about God" (TEV).
† *John 15:25*, Jesus said, "But I will send you the Comforter—the Holy Spirit, the source of all truth" (TLB).

4. Through God's _____ in Scripture.

- † 2 Timothy 3:16, "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what's true and make us realize what's wrong in our lives. It straightens us out. It teaches us to do what's right" (NLT).
- The Greek New Testament word translated as "inspired by God" is actually one Greek word [θεόπνευστος; theopneustos]. It literally means "_____."

How Do I Know The Bible Is True?

- (a) _____ (internal) truth >
 - (i) This is the truth you see in the _____ the Bible has made in your life and in the life of others.
 - (ii) This is the truth that _____.
- (b) _____ (external) truth >
 - (i) This is the truth you see in the Bible as a _____ book. Dates, places, people, and events all line up as stated.
 - (ii) The _____ of the Bible from the latest ancient copy to the oldest ancient copy. There are approximately 5,366 ancient copies of the Bible from the time it was written up to 70 years as the latest copy from the original copy.
- (c) _____ (external) truth > The Hittite Empire; the number of horses, horse stables, chariots and horsemen Solomon had.
- (d) The number of _____ are a source of truth (ex. Moses, Joshua, David, the disciples, the prophets and etc.).
- (e) The evidence that proves the Bible is true is the fact of how this book tells _____ with _____ over a 1,500 year span.

5. Through _____.

- † John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am THE Way, THE Truth, and THE Life. No one can come to the Father except through Me" (NLT).
- † John 3:33, "Those who believe Him discover that God is a fountain of truth" (TLB).

What Do I Do With the Truth Once I've Discovered It?

- (a) _____ it.
 - † Colossians 1:23, "But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God's servant to proclaim it" (NLT).
- (b) _____ it.
 - † Philippians 3:16, "Let us live up to what we have already attained" (NIV).
- (c) _____ for it.
 - † 2 Corinthians 13:8, "For we cannot oppose the truth, but must always stand for the truth" (NLT).
- (d) _____ it.
 - † 3 John 8, "We must support believers who go on trips like this so that we can work together with them in spreading the truth" (GWT).
- † Titus 2:7b, "Let everything you do reflect your love of the truth and the fact that you were in dead earnest about it" (TLB).