# OAKS | church of Christ

**Assembly Times:** 

Worship Service Bible Study <u>Sunday</u>

10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m.

**Wednesday** 

**Bible Study** 

7:00 p.m.

Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

July 16, 2023

# 7 Truths about Truth

by Ken Weliever

Winston Churchill once quipped, "Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened."

Truth today has fallen into disrepute. People casually speak of "my truth," or "your truth," as if absolute truth is non-existent.

My friend and preaching colleague, Perry Hall regularly posts on facebook a column he calls "A Pew Moments with Perry. He recently posted this wonderful piece about truth.

- 1. Truth exists. In a world where absolutes are disappearing, this foundation is not a given. If truth does not exist, then it is impossible and self-contradictory to deny truth exists! To deny the truth exists is exerting a truth itself. It is the same as saying "absolutes do not exist"; and to which the retort is, "Are you absolutely sure about that?" Therefore, truth exists.
- 2. Truth can be understood. A second foundation might need to be laid. This requires two affirmations: 1) Truth itself can be understood; 2) We personally are capable of understanding truth. To deny truth can be understood is again self-contradictory because asserting something cannot be understood affirms that being understood is a conceptual reality.

- 3. Truth is found in God's word. For those who didn't grow up with an inbuilt familiarity with the Bible, this foundation may need studying too. Both internal and external evidence assert the historicity of the text of the Bible and the reality of the people, places, and things. There is more evidence for the authenticity of the Bible than any other ancient text which are also accepted as legitimate.
- 4. Truth is something I need. Human nature might default to lies due to trauma for the sake of false survival, just ask anyone who has suffered such atrocities. Only one thing heals deep wounds truth. Even love is a type of truth because it includes loyalty, honesty, and dignity. No one who is healthy emotionally wants to subsist on lies. Therefore, truth is desirable and needed. I need God's truth so I can believe rightly about God, myself, and others.
- 5. Truth is something others need. Truth is the ultimate unifier and equalizer. To lie to someone is to deny their dignity and worth. To issue truth to others is to honor them. Again, God's truth is needed by everyone so we can believe rightly about God, ourselves, and others to treat others lovingly as ourselves.
  - 6. Truth is something I believe I have.

### Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

# **Important Dates**

Bulverde Summer Series
- Bulverde church of Christ,
Every Thursday June 1 August 17

Our meeting with Mark Roberts is scheduled for August 13-16

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here. Everyone believes they possess the truth about something (even atheists and naturalists). Since I believe in God and His truths, it is not egotistical to claim: a) I am holding on to what I believe is truth; b) truth is revealed by that God through His word; c) and that I can understand it.

7. Truth is something I believe I should share. If we believe we have the truth, there is an inner compulsion to share it. This is showing loyalty to truth, and to our friends.

Why share these 7 truths about truth? These lead to worshiping God as He declares, living by His dictates, healthy relationships with others and ourselves, and evangelism so that others can share in the truth we believe and need. Why share these 7 truths? Because...truth exists.

Thanks, Perry for this insightful piece. I would especially camp on points #3 and #6. Why? Because Jesus is the embodiment of Truth. He said, "I am the truth" (Jn. 14:6). When we know Him and the Word revealed by the Holy Spirit, we have access to Divine Truth. Jesus said, "God's Word is truth (Jn. 17:17).

I don't know who coined the phrase, but our age suffers from "truth decay." Modern culture doesn't value truth, it values convenience. Ease. Self-gratification. Folks today ask, "It is easy?" "Does it work?" "Is it right for you?" If so, it must be accepted. That's pragmatism! Not truth. Like the pagans of old many have "exchanged the truth of God for a lie" (Rom. 1:25).

The Truth is the "gospel of our salvation" (Eph. 1:13). When we believe, embrace and obey the Truth, we can have our souls purified, our consciences clean, and our hearts right with God.

Truth matters. Truth exists. Truth will triumph.

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# **Prayer Requests**

**Jack Wilson** is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

**Jerry Richardson's** lymphoma has returned and will be undergoing chemo starting next week,

**Dinah Williams** continues to have mobility issues.

**Don Simmons** is still struggling with his breathing; he is on oxygen at all times. He is home from rehab. **Alene** is having hip issues.

**Lisa Mullen (Darrell's sister)** is undergoing chemotherapy.

**Tony Mauck** has cancer that has already spread.

**Vicki Stevens** has cancer and is undergoing treatment.

**Margaret Vanaman** is home recovering.

**Syble Hargrove** is in Kingsland Hills Care Center.

**Dorthy Steadman** had a seizure and was hospitalized. She is staying with Hank.

**Debbie McMurray** is undergoing tests at MD Anderson.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

"praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making s upplication for all the saints,"

(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christias a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any manmade creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

### **Evangelist**

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### **Elders**

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### **Contact Us**

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