

What is truth?

Last month in an AP article entitled *Obama Praises Islam as "great Religion"*. The President quoted a statement made by Muhammad Ali, who was in attendance, saying "rivers, ponds, lakes and streams, they all have different names, but they all contain water. Just as religions do. They all contain truth."

The 64 trillion dollar question that we must answer is found in this quote made by the President. Is Christianity truth or does it contain truth? Is the Bible truth or does it contain truth? Do the teachings of Christ contain truth or are they truth?

The way in which we answer this question will fashion our entire philosophy of life. As we see an eroding of the Judeo Christian principles in our culture and a movement to embrace all religions and ideals as the paradigm of tolerance and political correctness, we must decide if Christianity is just another religion that contains truth or is it absolute truth that we can embrace without equivocation. For the Christian we must conclude with an unwavering commitment that the Word of God is absolute truth. We must believe that the Word of God as revealed in the scriptures does not contain snippets of truth, but rather we must believe that it is truth, absolute truth, and we must be willing to stand upon the truth no matter what the consequences.

I believe that there are six fundamental doctrines (truths) in particular that we as Christians must be committed to and be willing to stand on unwaveringly as being absolute truth. 1) The Deity of Jesus Christ. 2) The Virgin Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. 3) The Blood Atonement for the remission of sin. 4) The Bodily Resurrection. 5) The inerrancy of the scriptures. 6) Salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Once we have made the commitment to the absolute truth of the afore mentioned six doctrines, the second area of commitment must be to the Lordship of Christ in our lives. This means to simply put Jesus Christ first in our lives. It means to give Christ full control of our lives through the empowering of the Holy Spirit. The bible tells us in Romans 12:1-2, "I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." To consecrate our lives to the Lordship of Christ would be to symbolically take a check that represents our lives and fill in the date, make it out to the Lordship of Christ, then sign the check and give the check to God and say God I present my life to you. You fill in the blank. I offer you everything I have. When we are willing to write God a blank check representing our commitment to His Lordship over our lives then we will know Gods good, acceptable and perfect will for our lives.

Christians need to be committed not only to the fundamental doctrines of the Bible and the Lordship of Christ, but we must also have a fresh commitment to world evangelization that begins in our block, our neighborhood, our city, then to our world. In the forty day's of ministry that Jesus had with his disciples after the resurrection, Jesus gave five renderings of the commission to go and evangelize the world. The last commission is given in Acts 1:8, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the entire world."

As our nation continues to drift farther away from our Judeo Christian foundation we will continually be bombarded with philosophical religious statements that on the surface sound very palatable, but theologically are totally erroneous and serve only to undermine the absolute truth and infallibility of the Word of God. As the Apostle Paul writes in second Timothy chapter 3, "All

scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works”

Jesus never once taught that there are many ways to heaven. Jesus never taught that Christianity was just another ‘great religion’ of the world, just the opposite. Jesus says in John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me.”

Jesus said in John 8:32, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” If we are to impact our community and indeed our world for Christ we as Christians must recommit to the fundamental doctrines of Gods Word, recommit to the Lordship of Christ and recommit to world evangelization and stand with unwavering commitment upon the truth of Gods infallible Word.

Pastor, Randy Mason
Liberty Baptist Church of Marshalltown