

John 18:38 and Selected Scriptures

“What is Truth?” God’s Definitive Answer to Pilate’s Cynical Question
(pt. 2)

INTRO: *“In a world of lies, embracing and/or telling the truth is a revolutionary act!”*

“The truth will set you free, but first, it will make you miserable.”

“We live in a fantasy world, a world of illusion. The great task in life is to find reality.”

“Most men would rather deny a hard truth than face it.”

...**“and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free!”** (Jesus, John 8:32)

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through Me.” (John 14:6)

“What IS Truth?” Pontius Pilate during the Trial of the Ages in John 18:38.

“What is Truth?” God’s Definitive Answer to Pilate’s Cynical Question

5) The Gospel Truth is _____ to those who are perishing.

(2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Ephesians 2:1-2; 6:12; 1 John 5:19)

**6) The Gospel Truth is inextricably linked to Jesus’ _____
and the shameful cross.**

(John 18-19; 1 Corinthians 1:23-30)

“Here is Truth, beaten and bruised for our sins- hung on a tree!”

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**7) True Truth is often _____ and _____
in a world gone mad.**

(John 3:19-21; Romans 1:16-32)

8) Truth Matters! Go all in on the truth & “_____.”

(Proverb 23:23; 4:7; 16:16; 18:15; Matt. 13:44; 1 Peter 2:2-3; Psalm 1:1-6; Job 28:12-19)

9) It’s better to _____ for the truth than to live by lies.

(1 Peter 2:21; Luke 9:23-25; 2 Tim. 2:12; 2-3 John 8:32; 14:6; 17:17)

For Further Reflection/Application: *Lord help us to be doers of the Word and not just hearers!*

What is the most important thing you heard today? How were you encouraged, challenged, and/or convicted? What do you want to study further as a result of today's message?

Ask some of your unsaved friends how they'd answer the ultimate question: "What IS Truth?" Let Pastor Caleb know what you discover/hear/find out.

How would you respond to someone who rejects the words and works of Jesus Christ yet claims to be wholly committed to the truth? "But I'm seeking the truth. I love the truth." How would you respond to someone that says, "I believe in Jesus, I just don't embrace/accept/believe a lot of what is revealed in the Bible. I worship and follow Jesus not a book." What are some of Satan's most effective half-truths and/or his most convincing, well-packaged lies? Provide some real-life examples of Romans 1:25.

How should truth shape our prayer lives? How should truth impact our evangelistic efforts (especially when people reject the gospel truth and the truth teller)?

Provide some recent examples wherein the truth (especially core biblical truth) is despised and/or prohibited in this crazy world. (per Truth 7; note John 3:19-21; Rom. 1:16-32; John 15:18-16:5). One author put it this way, "*In John 18-19 truth is pitted against power and the truth of power is pitted against the power of truth.*"

What examples in your own life demonstrate your commitment to Proverbs 23:23? Read also Psalm 1:1-3; Job 28:12-19; Proverbs 4:7; 16:16; 18:15. 1 Peter 2:2-3. Matthew 13:44.

Is the gospel truth truly worth living and suffering (dying) for? Note Luke 9:23-25; 1 Peter 2:21; 2 Timothy 2:12. Church family we must *welcome* the truth, *love* the truth, *study* the truth, *live* the truth, *defend* the truth, and *tell* the truth-so help us God- AMEN! Note 2-3 John. 1 Timothy 3:15. Jude 3-4.

In view of Truth 4: Why should Ephesians 2:1-8 help believers remain humble?

"What IS Truth?" (review of 9/17/23 sermon)

1) *The Truth is supremely revealed and realized in and through Jesus Christ.*

(John 1:14-18; 8:31-32; 44; 14:6; Hebrews 1:1-4)

2) *True Truth is disclosed in the Holy Bible. (AKA the "Word of Truth")*

(John 10:35; Mt. 5:17-18; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17; Psalm 19:10; 86:11)

3) *The Truth is Out There (But So are Well-Packaged Half-Truths and Lies).*

(2 Cor. 10:5-7; 11:13-15; Jude 3-4; Psalm 19:12-14; 86:11)

4) *The Truth received by faith is what distinguishes the sheep from the goats.*

(John 10:1-11; 12:37-50; 18:36-37; Ephesians 2:1-8; 1 John 3:19; 1 Tim. 3:15)

10) *The Truth is paramount in evangelism, discipleship, and worship!* ("E"- Jn. 8:31-32; 5:32-47); ("D"- Jn 17:17; Eph 4:15-16); ("W"- Jn. 4:23-24; Col. 3:16-17).

One author noted, "God is the essence of truth (Numbers 23:19; Psalm 33:4; Isaiah 65:16; Jeremiah 10:10; John 3:33), and He wants His people to reflect His truth in their lives (Psalm 15:1-5 and

Ephesians 4:25). The Lord delights in His children who buy the truth and do not sell it (Proverbs 12:22). To His faithful followers, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31–32)... The gospel of our salvation is “the message of truth” (Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 2:5; Colossians 1:5). When we receive Jesus Christ, we also gain “the Spirit of truth” who guides us “into all truth” (John 16:13; see also 1 John 5:6). Jesus explained, “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you” (John 14:16–17; see also John 15:26). Truth is a rarity, but that’s only part of what makes it so valuable. Truth aligns with what is real; it reflects God’s character; it guides us through life. Once we possess the truth, no amount of wheedling, cajoling, rationalizing, mocking, or threatening should ever cause us to part with it.” In the 17th century Blaise Pascal declared that the “Truth is so obscure in these times and falsehood is so established that unless we love the truth, we cannot know it.”

What songs/hymns go well with the past two “What IS Truth” sermons?

John 18:28-38: Eight Sermon Planks

1) The Lamb’s Death March for Life.

(*John 18:28; Isaiah 53:7-8; Mark 10:45; Luke 9:51*)

2) The Trial Within the Trial.

(*John 18:29-31*)

3) The “What Sinners Intend for Evil, God Work for Good” Reminder.

(*John 18:32; Acts 2:22-4*)

4) The Royal Interrogation.

(What kind of King are you? Is Jesus the King of the Jews? *John 18:33*)

5) The Ultimate Life and Death Question

(What do YOU believe about Jesus? *John 18:34; Matthew 16:13-18*)

6) The Indignant Counter-Questions.

(*John 18:35, 37-38*)

7) The Nature of Jesus’ Glorious Kingdom!

(*John 18:36, 37b; Mt. 6:10-11; Col. 1:12-14; Rev. 19-20*)

8) The Cynical,(What IS Truth?) Question.

(*John 18:38*)

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