

DOES TRUTH EXIST?

Wow! It seems so hard to fathom the prospect another year in nearing its end, while things around the world and around the corner, are changing at such a fast rate; it is hard to keep up with all the chaos. Amidst all the changes and chaos, whether it be managed or not, many wonder if there is anything stable and/or reliable left for us to count on.

In previous essays on the subject of "does truth exist", I have suggested the world is unstable because societies have shifted from traditions and worldviews founded upon truth, commonsense and logic. Ancient boundaries and absolutes were established to help guide every element of a society with the hope it would remain ethical and viable. It is a shame to watch "great societies" and institutions crumble and become irrelevant because they chose to ignore and abandon absolute truth, commonsense and logic as a reliable foundation from which to operate.

The foundation of stability and security, which Americans have relied upon for centuries, has been eroding under our feet and has been replaced with a new philosophy called *pragmatism*. What is pragmatism? *Pragmatism* is the belief that truth consists not in relation with the facts but in constant connection with *experience*. Therefore, truth based upon *experience* and *feelings* enables it to vacillate based upon the ebb and flow of one's feelings.

Pragmatism does not lend itself to *isolationism*. It has a common affection for other moronic ideas, which are equally destructive on the cosmic level, (such as human society) and on the micro level, to include personal accountability and responsibility. Once pragmatism is embraced by a society, to be a normal way to think and operate, a new "ism" called *relativism* will creep up and join the campaign. *Relativism* is an equally corrosive philosophy, it too is meant to destabilize and restructure everything in its path. Again, this philosophy, along with pragmatism, is rooted in humanism, which elevates human happiness, ethics, and self-esteem above any form of thought or action.

What is relativism? *Relativism* is any theory holding that truth and values are not universal or absolute but may differ between individuals, cultures and experience. At this moment, we are experiencing a societal evolution where various media outlets are used to convince people it's cool to be pragmatic; that right and wrong is not based upon one set of truths or values but on how you personally feel. This philosophy, (pragmatism) shored up with relativism encourages individuals to rely solely on experience, rather than time-tested absolutes to base their decisions. To a pragmatist and a realist, truth is based upon what one knows and what is relevant at the time. This is absurd!

Just when you think society could not get any worse, or could be any more irrational, we find the pragmatist and the realist have another "ism" in their arsenal to use in their quest to reshape the way we think and live. Over the last century, a new philosophy known as *progressivism* has taken our country by storm. This particular belief system has been the "mother" of social destabilization as it unravels the underpinnings which have kept America stable, safe and distinctive in the world.

What is progressivism? *Progressivism* encompasses a wide spectrum of social movements, which include: labor, peace, environmentalism, agrarianism, anti-poverty, anti-racism, civil rights, women's rights, animal rights, social justice through community organizing. Progressivism finds its breath in politics and its ideologies coagulate with movements such as *anarchism*, *communism*, *socialism*, *liberalism*, *social equality* and *social engineering* to tear down stable institutions of religion, governments, education, society and the family. The main culprits of the rapid spread of this dangerous ideology lies within the media and educational outlets on every level.

America is now in a fight for its own survival. Fifty-five years ago this month, on October 16, 1960 the Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev delivered a speech at the U.N. In his closing remarks, Khrushchev made this chilling declaration, "the **US would be defeated without a shot being fired.**" What did he mean by this statement? Was he implying the graduates of the Soviet War College were better strategists than American generals and war strategists? Of course not; this battle for the control of human thoughts and actions would not be fought on an actual battlefield, rather the battle for the control of our thoughts and actions would be waged within the presumed safety of our home and schools. Because America has willingly embraced the practice of pragmatism, realism, and the evil tenets of progressivism as an alternative to absolute truth, Khrushchev's prophesy is coming true. His vision for America is becoming a reality. We must never forget, these humanistic philosophies are the underpinning of communism and the decimation of truth and human freedom.

Here is a brief exchange between Nikita Khrushchev and Ezra Taft Benson of the Eisenhower administration. Khrushchev, "You Americans are so **gullible**. No, you won't accept communism outright, but we'll keep feeding you **small doses of Socialism** until you will finally **wake up** and find that you already have *Communism*. We won't have to fight you; we will so **weaken your economy** until **you fall** like overripe fruit into **our hands.**" As I mentioned previously, we are living in perilous times! It appears; most American's have been asleep at the wheel for the last fifty-five years and thus, have not heeded the warnings. The bleak prognosis of our country is this, by the time we wake up it will be too late to reverse course.

Jesus said, "*I am the way, the **truth**, and the **life***". Truth does exist, yet the question remains, are we willing to **accept it** and allow it to **guide our lives**? Jesus also spoke these words... "*Seek the Kingdom of God, which is the **Kingdom of Truth**, above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.*" May God continue to richly bless you and your efforts to stand for and on TRUTH, and may we not succumb to Satan's attempts and strategies to destroy our desire to love God with all our hearts, souls, minds and beings.

Your friend,

Pastor Tim

Last month, we celebrated and contributed to the California Mission Offering. September is set apart, by the state convention, to encourage its members to focus their support of prayer and finances on the needs of other churches and ministries, within the state convention, who rely heavily on them for financial support.

The theme for this year's offering was inspired by Philippians 1:6 (NLT) *And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work **until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.***

The state convention concludes, if we (member churches) will continue to pray and give "**Until It's Finished**" they will be able to continue supporting church planting efforts, evangelism projects, disaster relief and other important projects.

A purpose statement was developed to help member churches better understand what they are to pray for and where their dollars will be invested. Here is a list of stated purposes:

- *Education* - Educate member churches concerning the urgent need of reaching our state for Jesus Christ and how giving supports missionaries and ministries throughout the state can faithfully execute the mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- *Encouragement* - Encourage member churches to pray for missions efforts around the state and for all the state missionaries who work with local churches to share the Gospel.
- *Evangelism* - Train and inspire member churches to intentionally be on mission and share their faith.

We thank the Lord for His help this year, we were successful in our efforts to reach our CMO mission's offering goal, with a little extra to spare. To God be the glory!

Women on Mission



Kenyan Coffee Klatch

Kenya is an East African country of great beauty and diversity. Our Women On Mission meeting focused on WorldCrafts artisans who call Kenya home.

At our gathering, we sampled African and Indonesian coffee along with some tasty treats. We also shopped for Christmas, while others browsed, from our WorldCrafts catalog. We also learned about the indigenous artisans who make items for the WorldCrafts catalog.

Please join us in prayer as we remember the missionaries and artisans who are trying to make a difference in the land of Kenya.

Operation Christmas Child

Here is an opportunity for you to participate in an annual outreach ministry. You will be helping thousands of others make a child's Christmas something special. Here are the items that we are asking for: toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, hairbrush, hairclips, bars of soap, toy jewelry and educational supplies such as felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, coloring books, notepads, picture or puzzle books, chalk, pencil cases, and stickers. These items must be able to fit in a shoe box. Please no liquid items. Cash donations are needed to help pay for shipping of the boxes. We will be collecting through Nov. 8th.

Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform

Devon Henesley - Grandson of Jean Johnson
Branch - Navy **Rank** - 2nd Class
Assignment - Virginia Beach

Megan Hines - Pastor Tim's Daughter
MIDN-Megan Hines
1 Wilson Rd. P.O. Box 12610
Annapolis, MD 21412

Brandon Woolworth - Nephew of Chery Hanna
Branch - Air force
Assignment - Tucson, Arizona

Joshua Woolworth - Nephew of Chery Hanna
Branch - Navy



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Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:30 am
 Morning Worship 10:45 am
 Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday Services

Family Dinner 5:00 pm
 Prayer Meeting 5:45 pm
 Choir Practice 6:45 pm



Calendar

- 7th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Prayer Meeting - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 14th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 12th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am
- 17th - Women on Mission - 10:00 am
- 21st - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Prayer Meeting - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 22nd - Open Door Mission - 6:15 pm
- 24th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am
- 26th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am
- 28th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 31st - Trunk or Treat - 5:00-8:00 pm

Happy Birthday

- 02nd - Linda Baker
- 02nd - Earl Ferguson
- 03rd - Randy Jorstad
- 06th - Tim Hines
- 06th - Brenda Kelleher
- 12th - Deborah Davis
- 18th - Christopher Connolly
- 22nd - Mallory Hines
- 23rd - Ruthine Boddie
- 23rd - Shauna Duncan
- 25th - Mike Trimble
- 26th - Doris Curlett

Happy Anniversary

- 02nd - John & Stacie Kopet
- 03rd - Wayne & Janice Hudgens
- 15th - Ken & Sue Abbott
- 21st - Elliott & Teresa Seigal
- 26th - Tim & Donna Hines



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Mark Your Calendars!



Please begin to **pray** about your role in our **Fall special outreach event**. Would you consider **decorating your trunk, helping with games, serve food** or be a **general volunteer**. This Fall event creates a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet our neighbors and share the love of Christ with those who may not know Him. We are striving to fulfill our *mission* as Christians, to reach the *lost sheep* for our Lord. This event will be led by Diane Varady, along with Deborah Davis and crew. For additional information or to sign-up, please visit the bulletin board in the main hallway near the fellowship hall, or speak to them personally. According to the director, last year we had approximately 150 people come through our event. With your help, we can make this year's outreach endeavor even better!