

## **Truth**

We live in a culture that embraces truth as being relative or subjective. This is a destructive position to hold.

1. A mistake can only be corrected when truth exists and is known.
2. Direction in life can only occur when truth exists and is known.

### **I. Defining Truth**

- A. Objective truth means that truth is independent of the knower.
- B. There are alternative views of subjective truth.
  1. The Pragmatic View - Truth is whatever works.
  2. The Observational View - Truth is what our senses can detect.
  3. The Rationalist View - Truth is what can be understood by human reason.
  4. The Intellectual View - Truth is the coherence or harmony of ideas.
  5. The Emotional View - Truth is what I feel.
- C. Truth was more than philosophical and subjective speculation to Jesus (John 18:37-38).

### **II. The Bible Affirms Objective Truth**

- A. Objective truth exists and can be known (I John 1:8; 3:18; 4:6; Ephesians 6:14a).
- B. Jesus is objective truth and He is known (John 1:14, 17; 14:6).
- C. The Word of God is truth and it can be known (II Timothy 2:15; James 1:18; John 17:17).
- D. Christ Followers can know objective truth (John 4:24; 8:32; 16:13).

### **III. The Sources of Subjectivism.**

1. People desire the approval of their culture.
2. Rebellion against objective truth.
3. Godlessness - Godlessness comes from three primary sources.

- a. Materialism
- b. Sensualism
- c. Self-Rule