

Christian World View

Part 5 *You Can't Handle the Truth!* --Jack Nicholson in *A Few Good Men*

"Men stumble over the truth from time to time, but most pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing happened."
--Winston Churchill

We love the truth when it enlightens us, but we hate it when it convicts us. --Augustine

There are only 2 Religious belief systems-- 1. Man is "god" or 2. God is God

This is because we live in a time when people have become **SELECTIVE** with **TRUTH!**

Knowledge and Truth are different.

Knowledge increases every day but TRUTH is **CONSTANT!** God wants us knowing TRUTH more than facts!

Sources of Truth to Believers "Truth is Absolute" "Truth is Knowable" "You can be wrong"

John 17:17 teach them your word, which is truth	BIBLE
John 14:6	Jesus told Him, "I Am the way, the truth , and the life.	JESUS
John 16:13	When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth .	HOLY SPIRIT
I Tim 3:15	This is the church of the Living God..... foundation of the truth .	CHURCH

Secular Humanist/Atheist/New Age View of Truth --- "Truth is Relative" "All opinions r ="

1. Nothing is True "That's the truth!" If there is no truth then this can't be true!

2. Nothing is knowable for sure "And I

know that! And I'm sure about it!"

3. Nothing matters Ok. Well, if nothing matters than why do u atheists go ballistic cuz I believe Bible?

I am amazed at so-called intellectuals who espouse contradictory or **self-defeating** statements like these?

Agnostics & Atheists say that truth can't be known, then claim that their view is true. You can't have it both ways.

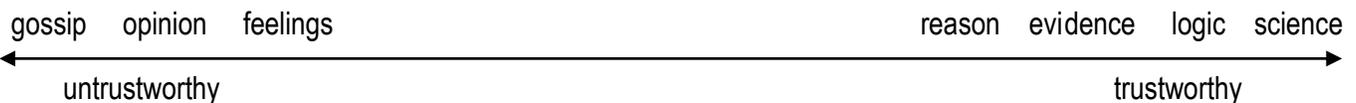
TWO FOUNDATIONAL LAWS ABOUT DISCOVERING TRUTH

People almost invariably arrive at their beliefs not on the basis of proof but on the basis of what they find attractive.

—BLAISE PASCAL

¹⁵*And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it .* I Peter 3:15

Christian Apologist is someone who goes beyond Biblical evidence to seek adequate justification or defense for Christianity. They give good evidence or reason to support or reject a belief.



Law of Non-Contradiction--Law of Non-contradiction is a self-evident first principle of thought that says contradictory claims cannot both be true at the same time in the same sense. In short, it says that the opposite of true is **FALSE!** We all know this law intuitively, and use it every day. This law is violated/ignored by many today who make truth relative and not absolute. It is the reason why all religions cannot be true. Christianity says Jesus died on the cross for us (I Corinthians 15:1-5). The Qu'ran says he didn't (Sura 4:157). One or both are wrong. They cannot both be true!

Law of the Excluded Middle—This is the second of two self-evident first principles. The Law of the Excluded Middle tells us that something either is or is not. For example, either God exists or he does not. Either Jesus rose from the dead or he did not. There are no third alternatives.

THE TRUTHS ABOUT TRUTH

What is truth? --Pilate John 18:38

Truth (def) *Conforming to fact or actuality or that which describes an actual state of affairs.*

- >Truth is **ABSOLUTE!** >Truth excludes its **OPPOSITE!**
- >Truth by its very definition is **NARROW AND EXCLUSIVE** and have consequences!
- >Truth is **DISCOVERED** not invented. It exists independent of anyone's knowledge of it.
- >Truth is **TRANSCULTURAL** If something is true, it is true for all people, all places, all times.
- >Truth is **UNCHANGING** even though our beliefs, though strongly held, about truth change.
- >Truth is not affected by the **ATTITUDE** of the one professing it.

In short, contrary **BELIEFS** are possible, but contrary **TRUTHS** are **NOT** possible.

We can believe everything is true, but we cannot make everything true.

A Word about Toleration--the definition of Toleration has been perverted into acceptance of all views as true.

This is **ABSURD** and **IMPOSSIBLE**. It is possible to be **WRONG!** This has led to pluralism.....

Pluralism—it is a recognition and affirmation of all religions as valid, true. Again, this is **ABSURD** and **IMPOSSIBLE**. Truth excludes its opposite.

PROBLEMS WITH PLURALISM

Somehow Freedom of Religion got twisted!

#1--Since mutually exclusive religious beliefs cannot be true, it makes no sense to pretend that they are. In fact, on an individual level it can be dangerous to do so.

#2-- The claim that “you ought not question someone’s religious beliefs” is itself a religious belief for pluralists. This belief is just as exclusive and “intolerant” as any religious belief of a Christian or Islam.

#3--The prohibition against questioning religious beliefs is also an absolute moral position. Why shouldn't we question religious beliefs? Would it be immoral to do so? And if so, by whose standard?

#4--The Bible COMMANDS Christians to question religious beliefs (Deut. 13:1-5; 1 John 4:1; Gal. 1:8; 2 Cor. 11:13; etc.). Since Christians have a religious belief that they ought to question religious beliefs, then pluralists, according to their own standard, should accept this Christian belief as well.

#5--The prohibition against judging is false because it fails to meet its own standard: “you ought not judge” is itself a judgment! Pluralists misinterpret Jesus' comments on judging (Matt. 7:1-10). Jesus did not prohibit judging as such, only judging hypocritically. All make judgments, so the issue isn't whether or not we make judgments, but whether or not we make the **right** judgments.

#6—Affirming error can be deadly. Are pluralists ready to accept as true the religious beliefs of Muslim terrorists—especially when those beliefs say that all non-Muslims (including pluralists) should be killed? Are we to accept as true the religious beliefs of those who believe in child sacrifice or other heinous acts?

So how do you know what I say is TRUE? There's NO way for you to know if what I am telling you IS true unless you know WHAT the Truth IS. And you cannot know what the truth IS unless there IS a truth you CAN know!

There is TRUTH whether you believe it or not, feels good or not, agree with it or not, know about it or not. Objective External Truth that you will face sometime in your life.

¹⁸ For the LORD is God, and He created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. He made the world to be lived in, not to be a place of empty chaos. “I am the LORD,” He says, “and there is no other. ¹⁹ I publicly proclaim bold promises. I do not whisper obscurities in some dark corner. I would not have told the people of Israel to seek Me if I could not be found. I, the LORD, speak only what is true and declare only what is right. Isaiah 45:18-19

CHRISTIAN WORLD VIEW

Part 6 If God Exists Why Is There Evil in the World

Then God looked over all He had made, and He saw that it was very good!

Genesis 1:31

*And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him **must believe that God exists** and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.*

Hebrews 11:6

If God Exists and He is Good and All Powerful Why is there Still Evil in the World? SO.. He must not exist!

I. 3 Possible Responses to this Questions

- 1. Pantheistic View** Evil Does Not Exist, it's only an **ILLUSION OF THE MIND**
(Christ. Sc., Hinduism) Unrealistic Position --our experiences/life tell us differently
- 2. Atheistic View** Evil Exists so God Does Not/Could Not Exist--Why would God create/allow evil?
Ungrounded Position—How would we know evil & injustice unless there is perfect, good?
- 3. Theistic View** Evil Exists and So Does God
Could there be a possibility that God allows evil to exist temporarily?

2. Evil doesn't cry out Against God it cries out **For God**. Evil actually **DEMANDS** God!

1. How do we know what EVIL is? Unless we know "good" (God, His Word, etc.)
2. How are we to get comfort from evil? I know of only one source (God)
3. How will evil ever be defeated? By Man?—oh really **God will defeat evil**

Solving Problems---The Bible View Must Answer Some Tough Questions!

>**Where did evil come from? Did a good God create evil?**

IF God is Good and hates evil, knows all ahead of time, is all powerful then.....

>**Why Did God Allow Evil to Happen and Why Does He Keep it Around?** For what purpose?

>**Where Did Evil Come From?** *Then God looked over all He had made, and He saw that it was very good!*

>If God is good and cannot make evil. If God is perfect and cannot create imperfect then....

Why couldn't He make creatures that couldn't sin?

>**If a Good God created a Good World and Good Creatures but did not create Evil then where did it Come from?**

St. Augustine (400 AD).... to the rescue!

Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life..” Deut. 30:19

1. God is perfect and created everything perfect
2. Part of that creation was **FREE WILL**
3. Free Will makes evil possible but not necessary

Freedom is good. God was good to create us with a free will. What is the opposite? Bondage! Robot! What kind of a loving God **forces** people to worship or love Him? God create us with a **free will** to obey or disobey. Evil is not a created “substance.” It is a **CHOICE** and that is where it comes from. Evil is simply the absence of Good just as Darkness is nothing more than the absence of light!

FREE WILL makes evil POSSIBLE. But, There is a difference between making Evil Possible and making Evil ACTUAL! There is nothing Wrong with making Evil possible!

If you create a being that is free to worship, he is also free to blaspheme-- free to do good he is also free to do evil. Free will means we are free to do "otherwise" and that's exactly what Lucifer, third of the angels, and man did.

So, a Good Father, made a Good Home with Good Creatures & a Good Free Will.

Then the Good Creatures chose the selfish, finite good of the creature over the infinite good of the Creator.

After all, there was a FIRST DISOBEDIENCE and a FIRST MURDER that had no precedence.

Why Does Evil Persist? The Atheists "Top Argument" actually proves God!

> If God is All Good and should want to defeat Evil and

> If God is All Powerful and could easily defeat Evil and Evil is not defeated, so there must not be a God!

But what if we simply added one little word "YET"

Because it has not YET been defeated does not mean it won't ever be.

To make that conclusion that Evil won't ever be defeated you would have to be God!

God made it all good and will end it all good, it's the middle we have messed things up.

Let's try the Atheists "Top" Argument another way and add one word which has Biblical support ...

> If God is All Good and would defeat Evil *and* If God is All Powerful and could easily defeat Evil and Evil is not defeated, YET! therefore there must be a God to defeat evil someday!

The logical conclusion is thatEvil will NEVER be defeated unless there's a God to defeat it!

Is man going to defeat evil? Let's see.... how has the first 10,000 years of that program gone?

Is There Any Purpose in Evil? How will God defeat evil? God is using the current situation as a testing grounds to allow us to use our free will to choose our destiny----- a day when we will live somewhere forever.

Ever notice how Good and Evil frustrate each other. There will be a day when God will separate good from evil. A place of no more good to frustrate evil forever! A place of no more evil to frustrate good forever!

Eventually there will be JUSTICE! We want Justice now & God is patiently doing away w/ evil in 2 steps.

Step 1 was the First Coming and the Cross—An Unjust Sufferer

Step 2 will be a Second Coming of Judgment—A Just Judge

We should rather ask "Why do Good things happen to Bad People?"

We have to be careful about saying that we don't know why something exist or that there is no good reason for something. Because we don't know doesn't mean He does know or have a purpose.

There is purpose in pain!! Toothache? Chest pain? **We learn life's lessons in painful moments!**

God is a Pro at bringing Good OUT OF Bad situations! i.e. David, Joseph, Moses, Elijah, Peter, etc.

God is using Evil now to help us learn to make the right choices. It is the way we become like Christ.

God would actually be unloving if He did away with Evil before we mature.