

# What is Truth?

Sermon on the Mount Series – Part 9

Scripture text – Matthew 5:33-37

## Introduction

- The present age has been described as \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.
- This means that people are more likely to accept an argument based on their \_\_\_\_\_ and personal beliefs than they are on \_\_\_\_\_ facts.

## Jesus Speaks on Truth & Honesty

- The Pharisees were promoting truth & honesty, but on a \_\_\_\_\_ or sliding scale. Essentially, they had developed \_\_\_\_\_ of truthfulness.
- Thus, they had \_\_\_\_\_ the standards of truth & honesty in everyday Jewish life.
- Jesus requires truthfulness regardless of the \_\_\_\_\_.

## How We Got Here

- In the 1960's, Western civilization entered a new epoch called the \_\_\_\_\_ era.
- There have been 3 previous epochs since the time of Christ:
  - 1) Greco-Roman era (332 BC-395 AD) – civilization dominated by the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2) Medieval era (395-1500) – civilization dominated by the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) Modern era (1500-1960) – the age of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Postmodern era is characterized by 4 shifts:
  - 1) From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2) From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3) From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4) From \_\_\_\_\_ truth to \_\_\_\_\_ truth

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## Re-Defining Truth

- Traditional definition: Truth is that which \_\_\_\_\_ to reality or fact.
- New definition: Truth is \_\_\_\_\_ by each individual or tribe.
  - Without objective truth, society dissolves into \_\_\_\_\_, which inevitably leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Why This Shift Happened

- The re-definition of truth is nothing less than humanity's latest attempt at \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.
- Ironically, the more we self-deify, the more we \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves.

## Reconstructing Truth – 6 Building Blocks

1. God is a God of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - He is against all \_\_\_\_\_.
2. God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all truth.
  - Truth \_\_\_\_\_ with him and \_\_\_\_\_ from him.
3. Truth \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Truth does not \_\_\_\_\_ on our subjective feelings, desires or beliefs.
4. Truth \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The consequences of rejecting, suppressing or distorting truth may be catastrophic.
5. Truth is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Truth applies \_\_\_\_\_ and across \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Christ's followers will \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in truth.
  - Correspondingly, we will \_\_\_\_\_ falsehood.

## Karl Marx

- The father of socialism & communism feared \_\_\_\_\_, and especially the one who said he came into the world to \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Family Discussion Questions

1. What are some of the lies our culture is telling us today?
2. How honest & truthful are we in our daily interaction with each other?