

What is Truth?

John 18:28-40. Pilate's question, "*What is truth?*" may have been a sarcastic evasion of the issue at hand, or it could have been born of sincere confusion and utter exasperation. I do not know which it was, but have come to favor the latter given the specificity of Luke 23:14-22 in regard to his initial judgment and efforts to release Jesus. Whatever Pilate's motivation and meaning, his words have become relevant for many today. Consider, for a few moments, the uphill plight of the *uninformed* seeker of "truth" faced then, and now. What are our primary *sources* of "truth"? In a "big picture" kind of way, I would suggest these four: *News, Science, Religion, and Society*. Don't get *too far* ahead of me, but surely you see the problem here!

I. "News"

A. Fake News- Mark 14:55-60, the *chief priests* and the *whole Council* "*kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death...*"

B. Biased News- Luke 23:2, the *charges* (better, *accusations*) proffered to Pilate.

- "*misleading our nation,*" cf. Luke 23:14
- "*forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar,*" cf. Luke 20:22-26
- "*He Himself is Christ, a King,*" cf. Luke 23:3; John 18:33-37

The real purpose was revealed in John 18:29-32.

II. "Science"

A. Fake/Bad Science- Matt.12:22-29, their *faulty logic/reasoning* is revealed.

B. Biased Science- John 9:1-34 (especially vv.8-9,16,31,34), they seemed to have started with a *conclusion* and then only considered "evidence" that supported it rather than the other way around.

III. "Religion"

A. Fake Religion- Matt.23:13-33, *converts, prestige, and power* were the objectives rather than truth.

B. Biased Religion- John 11:38-48,53,57, *truth* was supplanted with *expediency*.

IV. "Society" (as a result of the above absence of "truth")

A. Misguided Society- Matt.16:13-14, they had seen to miracles and heard the testimony, but missed the point!

B. Rebellious Society- Matt.23:34-38, perhaps as a result of all of the above (failures to arrive at "truth" through *news, science, or religion*), rebellion resulted.

V. So, "*What is truth?*"

A. *Natural Revelation*: "nature" reveals truth, Rom.1:18-23. Will you *submit* to it, or *suppress* it in unrighteousness?

B. *Specific/Spiritual Revelation*: God's Spirit-inspired Word is truth, John 17:17; 1Cor.2:10-16.

C. Will you reject it, 2Thess.2:8-12, or accept it, 2Thess.2:13-15?

D. Remember that the "truth" that saves is *known and lived*, John 8:31-32!