**“Your” Truth vs. “The” Truth**

In 33 A.D. the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, asked the question, *“What is truth?”* John 18:38. I’m not sure whether the question was asked from ignorance or sarcasm, but I am sure way too many people are no longer able to discern it (*truth*)!

To our young people, I say, “I’m sorry.” The world we have left you is in peril and spiraling downward to self-destruction. Indeed, your world, country, state, county, and community is in trouble. The tendency to make truth *relative* and *subjective* is destroying us. I’m sick of it, and apologize for it. You shouldn’t have to deal with such things, but you will and you do. I can’t believe that we, as a people, are this ignorant and naïve, but the evidence says otherwise:

* Oprah Winfrey and others encourage people to find, accept, and live “your” truth, and society swoons, gushes, and applauds.
* And yet I read just last week (early December, 2018), that in Florida school officials tried to force a male P.E. teacher to watch a middle school girl (who thinks she is/wants to be a boy) take a shower to be sure the boys with whom she wants to shower don’t make fun of her. “The” truth is made subjective to “her” truth, and apparently everyone else must capitulate.

OK, but what about the actual “boys” truth who understand themselves to be boys, and walked out of the shower because they didn’t want shower with a girl? What about the “P.E. teacher’s” truth that realizes he can be sued, jailed, and branded a “sex offender” for watching a middle school girl shower naked?

* In Texas (likewise, I read last week), a court bars a father from teaching or dressing his son as a boy because the boy’s mother is convinced that he wants to be a girl despite the boy, when given the chance at least, always choosing to dress and conduct himself as a boy anytime he is with his father. The only time the poor six-year old seems to think he is a girl is when he is with his mother! “Whose” truth will prevail and be upheld?

To borrow from the introduction to the gospel of Luke (*“so that you might know the exact truth about the things you have been taught,”* Luke 1:4), please understand that **“Truth”** by its very nature is:

* + ***Empirical*** (derived from or guided by experience or experiment) rather than ***Theoretical*** (otherwise its just *theory, desire,* or *guesswork*), Deut.18:20-22 with Josh.21:43-45; 23:14; so it is…
	+ ***Objective*** rather than ***Subjective***; and therefore,
	+ ***Universal*** rather than ***Personal****,* cf. Luke 20:21; Rom.1:16-17.

***The* Truth** You must Know, Accept, and Follow (allow to be your guide in life):

1. **God created everything from nothing,** Rom.4:17; Heb.3:4; 11:3;
2. **All lives matter- regardless; including yours,** 1Tim.2:4; Gen.2:7; John 3:16; 8:31-32; 17:17
3. **You don’t get to choose your gender, God does,** Matt.19:4; Gen.1:27; 5:2;
4. **You can live *your* life, but you can’t *take* anyone else’s-** at least not without consequences (abortion is *wrong* no matter who says otherwise), Gen.25:21-24 (*children* struggled within Rebekah); Jer.1:5 (*unborn* are creations of and known by God); Luke 1:41; *life* is a gift from God, and as such, each one is precious in His sight, Jonah 4:10-11.
5. **You *do* get to choose how you will live the life God gave you, according to His will or yours,** **but again, not without consequences +/-** (sex w/o marriage, homosexuality, and MDR still have consequences because God said so, 1Cor.6:9-11), Rom.1:18,25, we can *suppress the truth in unrighteousness,* or 1Cor.13:6, walk in *love* by *rejoicing* not in *unrighteousness* but in *truth.*

**Conclusions:**

* There isn’t such a thing as *my truth, your truth,* or even *our truth,* just *the truth.*
* God has given us the choice to accept and obey it, or deny and disobey it, but that choice has consequences both now and eternally.
* You must decide whether you will believe, accept, and obey (live by) *the truth* of God, or the *lies* Satan and the world.