Up Stream

Be not conformed ... but be transformed

Series

Part 1 - Truth: Foundations of Reality

John 8:31-47,58

June 13, 2021

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:32

I. The Mainstream Worldview of Truth

- A. All truth is relative and there are NO absolutes
 - 1. Life is validated on the basis of personal experience
 - 2. Truth is said to be more felt than known
- B. Ultimately there can be no standard of morality (right and wrong)
- C. Leads to "situational ethics" what is right and wrong depends on the situation/culture
 - 1. "Your truth" or "my truth" depends on the person's perception of reality
 - 2. We expect absolute truth in some areas Finance, Healthcare, and the Judicial system
- D. "Tolerance" and "Pluralism" are the highest values for many postmodernist
 - 1. "Tolerance" = all people have the right to their own truth and not to be forced
 - 2. "Pluralism" = all truths are valid and should be treated with equal value

II. The Upstream (Biblical) Worldview – (John 8:1 – 41)

- A. The word "truth" is used over 120 times in the Bible
- B. Jesus states the truth about truth (vs. 31 32)
 - 1. Those who know (pistis) Christ can know truth! (I Cor. 2:14)
 - 2. True believers not only believe but practice truth
 - 3. Truth is real and knowable (*gnosko* = inside assurance)
 - 4. Truth sets people free (vs.34 36)
- C. The Pharisees connected truth to Abraham and the Law
- D. Jesus speaks the truth from God (vs. 37 41)

III. The Jesus Factor – (John 8:42 – 47, 58)

- A. Jesus should be loved because he was sent from God
- B. Those who are opposed to God cannot accept the words of Jesus
- C. They choose to follow Satan who has "No truth in him" and is the "father of lies"
- D. Those who belong to God hear what God says. (John 17:17)
- E. "I tell you the truth (amen amen!) ... Before Abraham was born I am" (John 14:6)

IV. What Can We Do?

- A. Know truth yourself not based on others, but based on the Holy Spirit in you! *"If you're not convinced your not contagious"*
- B. Don't expect people outside of the Christian faith to fully grasp truth as you see it.
- C. Keep bringing the question of truth back to Jesus He is the key!
- D. Be bold and not ashamed of the truth that we have discovered (Rom. 1:16)