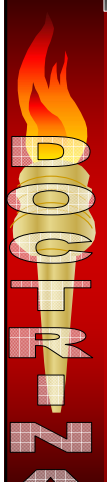


TRUTH


“37 Pilate therefore said to Him, ‘Are You a king then?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to **the truth**. Everyone who is of **the truth** hears My voice.’

38 Pilate said to Him, ‘What is **truth**?’ And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, ‘I find no fault in Him at all” (Jn. 18:37, 38, NKJV)



TRUTH

- Bible reveals truth. . .
 - HISTORICAL
 - “This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created. . .” (Gen. 2:4, NKJV)
 - INSTRUCTIONAL
 - 2 Timothy 3:16, 17
 - PERSONAL
 - modeled by Christ (Jn. 1:14; 14:6)




TRUTH

distinguishable

1. different
“recognizably different”
2. detectable
“capable of being seen, heard, tasted, or detected in some way”


(Encarta Dictionary)



TRUTH

distinguishable


- Aquila/Priscilla knew Apollos needed more instruction (Acts 18:24-26)
- The WAY is distinguishable from other ways
- The way Jesus preached was distinguished from the scribes (Matt. 7:28, 29)



TRUTH

knowable


- knowable (comprehensible through study and experience)
- “For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth” (2 Pet. 1:12, NKJV)
- ²⁰ “Have I not written to you excellent things Of counsels and knowledge, ²¹ That I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, That you may answer words of truth To those who send to you?” (Prov. 22:20, 21, NKJV)
- “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (Jn. 8:32, NKJV)



TRUTH


verifiable

- verifiable (examination, investigation)
- “Then the woman said to Elijah, ‘Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is the truth’” (1 Kin. 17:24, NKJV)
- “This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, ‘Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him’” (Jn. 3:2, NKJV)




APPLICATION: Paul Preaching Resurrection of the Dead

- People were skeptical
 - “Why should it be thought incredible by you that God raises the dead?” (Acts 26:8, NKJV)
- People had a quick but not well thought out response
 - “Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, ‘Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!’” (Acts 26:24, NKJV)




APPLICATION: Paul Preaching Resurrection of the Dead

- BUT the TRUTH of the resurrection was verifiable by credible witnesses!
 - Paul as witness!
 - not easily dismissed
 - appealed to Agrippa’s vast treasury of expertise to listen patiently (v. 3)




APPLICATION: Paul Preaching Resurrection of the Dead

- Paul as witness!
 - manner of life well known (v. 4)
 - strictest sect of Judaism as a Pharisee (v. 5)
 - violently led wide-spread opposition against Jesus of Nazareth (vv. 9-11; cf. 8:3; ~140 miles to Damascus 9:13)
 - saw Jesus after His crucifixion on road to Damascus, 26:13-18; 1 Cor. 9:1); others were with him during this event (Acts 26:13, 14)
 - NOTE: doesn't speak of his private meetings with Jesus as proof (cf. Acts 18:9; 23:11), but rather refers to this public encounter which changed his mindset
 - fulfillment of other ancient literature (26:22, 23)
 - the things Paul referred to were not done in a corner but were well known (26:26); Agrippa, an expert doesn't counter!



The TRUTH's *verification* of the RESURRECTION


- Paul was only one witness of several
 - other apostles and disciples (Acts 1:3; 1 Cor. 15:4-8)



TRUTH

What the WICKED do. . .

- blaspheme (2 Pet. 2:2)
- wander from (Jas. 5:19, 20)
- replace with empty words (Is. 59:4; cf. Rom. 1:25)
- train their tongues to speak lies (Jer. 9:5)
- refuse to obey (Gal. 3:1)
- do not love the truth (2 Thess. 2:10)
- suppress (Rom. 1:18)
- resist (2 Tim. 3:8)



TRUTH

What it REQUIRES

- love it
 - ". . . Therefore love truth and peace" (Zech. 8:19)
- believe it
 - 2 Thess. 2:11, 12
 - necessitates hearing (Eph. 1:13)
- obey it
 - 1 Pet. 1:22
- speak it
 - Ephesians 4:25
 - with reason (Acts 26:25)

LOVE BELIEVE

TRUTH

OBEY SPEAK