

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Do We Have Absolute Truth?

We do not know all things. In the physical realm, not all has been discovered (Pro. 25:2; Job 38-42). In the spiritual realm, not all has been revealed. We do not know when the Lord will return (Mt. 24:36, 42,44; 1 Thess. 5:1-2; Mt. 24:42-44). We do not fully know the nature of our existence to come (1 Jn. 3:1-2; Phil. 3:20-21). There are secret things. Moses told Israel, ***“The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and our children forever”*** (Deut. 29:29). God is all-knowing (Ps. 139:1-4; Isa. 40:13-14; 46:9-10 Mt.12:36) not man (Ps. 139:6; Isa. 55:8-9; 1 Cor. 1:25; 1 Jn. 3:20).

However, we can know what God has revealed to man. Consider (1) Moses told Israel, ***“...Those things which are revealed belong to us and our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law”*** (Deut. 29:29). Moses implied that they could understand God’s revealed will sufficiently enough to do it. (2) It is written of Ezra, ***“Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel”*** (Ezra 7:10). Ezra believed that he could understand the law well enough to do it, and to teach it. (3) Jesus said, ***“If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”*** (John 8:32). God’s Word is truth (Jn. 17:17). It is knowable. It provides the answer to man’s sin problem (Jn. 8:32; 8:34). (4) Paul wrote to the saints at Ephesus, ***“...when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ”*** (Eph. 3:4). He believed that his writings could be understood. (5) Peter wrote to some saying, ***“You have purified your soul in obeying the truth...”*** (1 Pet. 1:22). They had been able to understand it well enough to obey it. (6) Peter exhorted brethren to ***“grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ”*** (2 Peter 3:18). This growth comes by feeding on the Word (1 Pet. 2:2).

Does it take exceptional intelligence or education to understand, at least on some basic level, God’s Word? I do not believe it does. (1) God ***“desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”*** (1 Tim. 2:4). Does He desire the impossible? (2) The Gospel was/is to be preached to “every creature” (Mark 16:15). This does not sound like the message was intended for only those who are Mensa members. This does not sound like it was intended for only those with DD’s, Th. D’s or Ph. D’s. (3) Mark wrote of those who listened to Jesus, ***“And the common people heard Him gladly”*** (Mk. 12:37). *Vincent’s Word Studies* comments on “the common people” saying, “Not indicating a social distinction, but the great mass of people: the crowd at large.” (4) Moses instructed Israel, ***“and these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up”*** (Deut. 6:6-7). Why teach it, if their children were not capable of understanding it, on any level? (5) Paul told Timothy. ***“From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation”*** (2 Tim. 3:15). Timothy understood, at least some things from Scripture; and he did so from childhood.

A couple of things are needed. (1) It takes will or desire. One needs a will to do His will (Jn. 7:17). One needs to hunger and thirst for righteousness (Mt. 5:6). One needs to desire God’s Word (1 Pet. 2:2; Ps. 1:1-2; 19:7-11). (2) It takes effort (Pro. 2:1-5). It takes diligent work (2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Pet. 1:5-8). The wise spend time thinking about God’s Word (Ps. 1:1-2; 119:97-100; 147-148).

I have known those whose Biblical knowledge grew rapidly; and, I have known of those who Biblical knowledge did not grow, or grew little. A new convert, with little familiarity with the Bible at the time of conversion, becomes well-studied and knowledgeable in only a few years. Another, with a similar starting place, shows no or little growth decades later. What is the difference? Many times, the answer lies in desire and effort.

While it is possible to understand God's revealed will, this does not mean that all will. (1) Some are untaught or ignorant of God's Word (2 Pet. 3:16). They do not invest the time and effort (Pro. 2:15). Are We? (2) some are unstable (2 Pet. 3:16; 2:14). They are not grounded enough to withstand false teaching. Are we? (3) Some desire things to be a certain way (Isa. 30:10); Jer. 6:14; 8:11; Jn. 3:19; 2 Thess. 2:11-12; 2 Tim. 3:6; 4:3; 2 Pet. 2:18). One should approach God's Word asking, "What does this mean?" not "What do I want it to mean? Do we? Let us examine ourselves. —Bryan Hodge

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Trina Plyler** who lost her battle with cancer on Wednesday, September 20th in a Ft. Worth Hospital. Trina fought cancer for eight years. A memorial service was conducted for her yesterday at the Southside Church of Christ in Mineral Wells, TX. Please keep Trina's family in your prayers at this time.

Prayer Requests

Bill Wood was taken to Midland Memorial Hospital last Monday. All his tests turned out well. Bill went home on Tuesday.

Bruce Plyler was admitted into ICU last week due to his diabetes. He was doing okay.

Concerns Update

Ronda Lyne is out of ICU and in Room #955 at MCH. She is doing much better and able to have visitors.

Prayer List

Mary Anchondo; Maria Baeza; Anee Blumenauer; Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Arthur Campos; Sylvia Campos; LaDonna Chism; James Drake; Jon Easley; Cathy Eastwood; Daniel Eastwood; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Charles Lewis; Ronda Lyne; Leigh Ann McFarland; Keith Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Bruce Plyler; Linda Straw; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; John Wood; Wilene & David Wright;

Eisenhower's Homebound...

Glenna Callendar; James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley & Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9

Office News...

Brandon Aguilar will be here October 29th to present our morning Bible Class and Worship. He is a student that we support from the Southwest School of Bible Studies in Austin, TX.

"October Attended Nursery"

10/1 Robbie & Carolyn 10/8 Patsy & Holly

10/15 Courtney & Julie 10/22 Terresia & Virgie 10/29 Devida & Linda

Thank You

Dear Eisenhower Church of Christ Family,

Thank all of you for the prayers, love, support and faith for God to carry me through a journey with a brain tumor. I could feel all of your love and strength! I am so blessed to have a gracious God who never fails. Thank each of you who prayed, sent cards and for your journey in Christ. Love Amme Blumenauer.

Shine On
(by Dalton Key)

The darker the night, the dimmer the day,
As embers of memories flicker away,
When the brightening goodness of life seems long past,
When the worst from the best of us leaves us aghast,
This truth I continue to settle upon,
My choices are mine and I choose to shine on.
I know I can't turn all the darkness to light,
I know I can't change every wrong into right;
My voice is so feeble, my life is so small,
Confronted by darkness confronting us all,
But still this one truth I will settle upon,
My choices are mine and I choose to shine on.
You can have all your glasses half-empty with gloom,
Your hopeless despair draining hope from the room;
The world, to a soul, may trade darkness for light;
There may be none left yet to take up the fight,
But still, here is truth that I'll settle upon,
My choices are mine and I choose to shine on.

People Can Change

It is sometimes said of those in sin. "They will never change." While it is true that sin can have a death grip on men, yet it is possible if man's heart be willing, to make a change in his way of living. Jesus introduced into the world the greatest power to change men the world has ever known. That power is the gospel (Romans 1:16). An elderly man spent years of vanity in the nothingness of ungodly living and looking back with tear-filled eyes over the mountains of heartaches and acres of regrets cried, "I'm so tired of sin. Can someone help me?" a drunkard became disgusted with himself and said "I want to change." He did. You can.

People can change. Peter changed from a coward into an intrepid proclaimer of God's Word (Matthew 26:74; Acts 2:1-42). An up and coming young, Pharisee named Saul, first persecuted the church but he changed and began "preaching the faith which once he destroyed" (Galatians 1:23). What great hope the gospel brings!

Do you need to make a change? The change begins in obedience to the gospel (Galatians 3:26-27).

—Bill Dillon

October 1, 2023	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Steve Easlon	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture Reading	Jacob Carson	Bill Ryan
Second Prayer	Oliver Hernandez	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Jr. Munoz	David Baldwin
Lords Supper	<u>Cody Wesson</u>	Richard Siler
	Gary Loving	Communion
	Jackie Perkins	(In Library)
	Travis Ruckman	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson –556-5547 *Deacon:* Bill Ryan 272-5507—*Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444—*Table:* Richard Siler 556-2151 — *Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 — *Recording Sermons:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 — *Contributions:* Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

“The Undeserved” (Joshua 24:1-13)

Sunday PM

“Celebrating Christ” (Philippians 2:1-11)

Our Records

Bible Class... 76

Morning Worship...110

Evening Worship ... 75

Wednesday...68

Contribution...\$5,526.25