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THE SURE WORD By Jonnie Hutchison

IS TRUTH ABSOLUTE?

The philosophy known as “relativism” teaches that there is no such thing as “absolute truth.” This philosophy views truth as relative and ever changing depending upon the circumstances. In other words, there is no such thing as independent objective truth. What may be truth under one circumstance to one person may not be truth under different circumstances to another person. The dictionary definition of relativism is “the doctrine that knowledge, truth, and morality exist in relation to culture, society, or historical context, and are not absolute.”

The rejection of absolute truth is a rejection of the Word of God. Jesus said, “You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). Jesus also identified the truth of which he spoke in the words, “Sanctify them by Your truth, **Your word is truth**” (John 17:17). God’s Word has been revealed in written form in the Bible. The truth revealed in the Bible is absolute and non-changing. Those who attempt to either add to, subtract from or substitute for that absolute truth are under the condemnation of God (Deut. 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19). God’s truth is independent and unaffected by the circumstances of life. It remains the same regardless of the actions of mankind.

It is actually quite simple to prove the existence of absolute truth. What is the answer to $2+2$? We all know the answer. $2+2=4$. Are there any circumstances which would allow the answer to be 3, 5, or 7? Of course not. Why? Because there is only **one true** answer. The absolute truth is that $2+2$ always equals 4. Can you imagine the chaotic result of placing this mathematical formula in the realm of relativism?

God’s truth transcends all human culture, society, or historical context. God’s Word (revealed in the Bible) is absolute and eternal truth! “Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven” (Psalms 119:89). “But the word of the Lord endures forever.” Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you” (1 Peter 1:25).

What does this mean for you? It means you can not only know divine truth with certainty, but you can be saved by conforming your life to what it teaches. When Jesus said, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned” you can be certain that these words are absolute truth! Relativism is a great tool – FOR THE DEVIL but will result in eternal loss for those who are deceived by it. May God help us each to embrace the ABSOLUTE TRUTH of God’s Word.greenplainchurchofchrist.org. Thanks for reading.