

Memory Verse

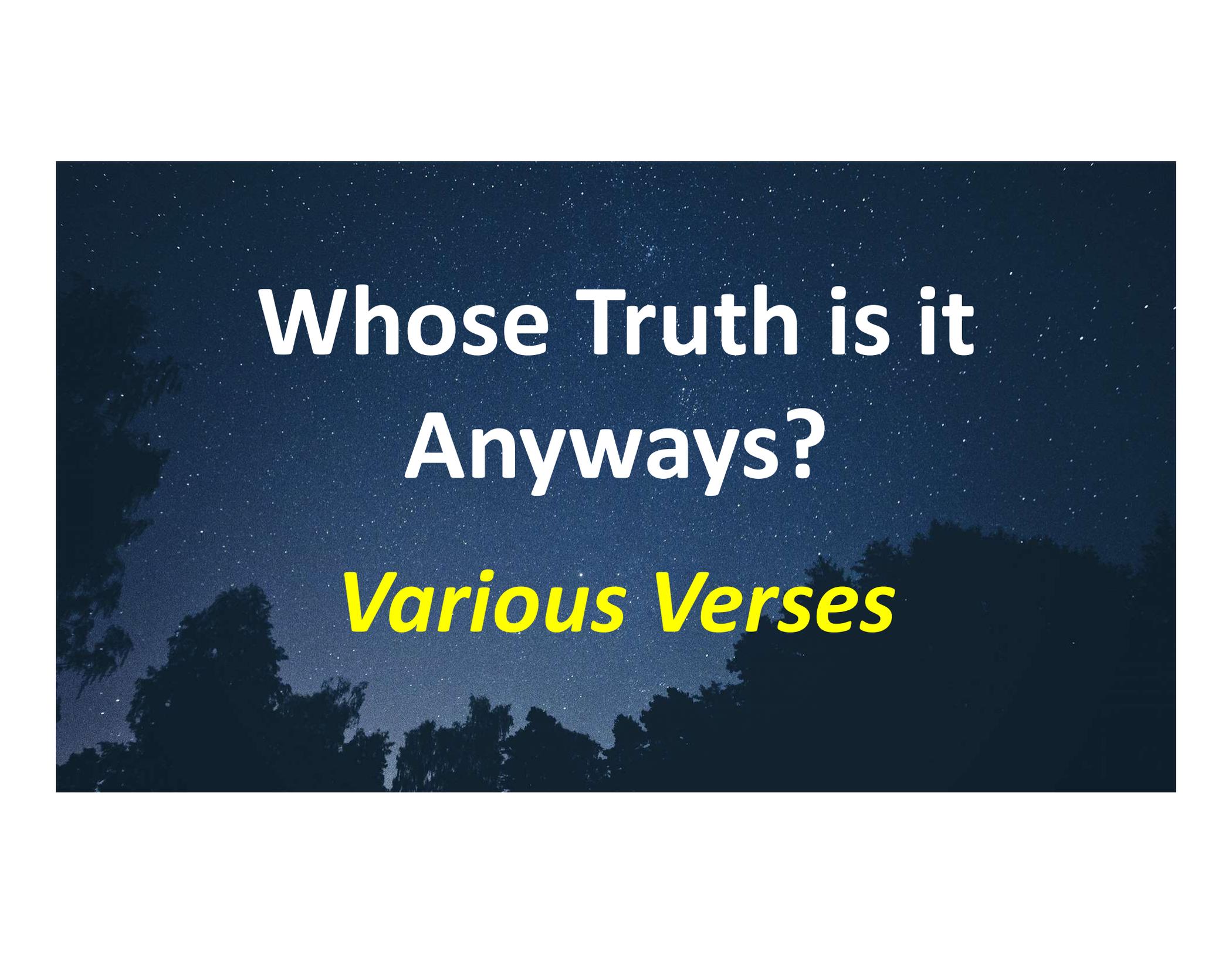
John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

GRACELIFE



CHURCH

A night sky filled with stars, with the dark silhouettes of trees visible at the bottom. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

Whose Truth is it
Anyways?

Various Verses

Truth is *objective, corresponds to reality, in all places, for all people, at all times and does not change.* Today, we are going to look at **truth**. We will *explore* what the world believes and look at principles to discern what is true from what is false. **Ultimately,** we must have an ***objective standard,*** or something outside of ourselves, that *is and/or guides us to truth.*

A. The Reality of Truth

1. Relativism

There are no absolutes, no truth, no right and wrong, because *no idea is better or righter than any other.*

A. The Reality of Truth

2. Subjective Truth

Truth is up to the **individual**, *subjective desire, rather than objective reality*. “True for you but not for me.” I believe something, you believe something else and *we’re ok*.

A. The Reality of Truth

2. Subjective Truth

*Reality isn't what I want it to be... Being in control, is the **foundation** that truth is up to the individual. But, my beliefs don't dictate reality.*

A. The Reality of Truth

3. The Law of Non-Contradiction

The law of non-contradiction is a law of logic that states something can't be one thing and something else at the same time.

A. The Reality of Truth

3. The Law of Non-Contradiction

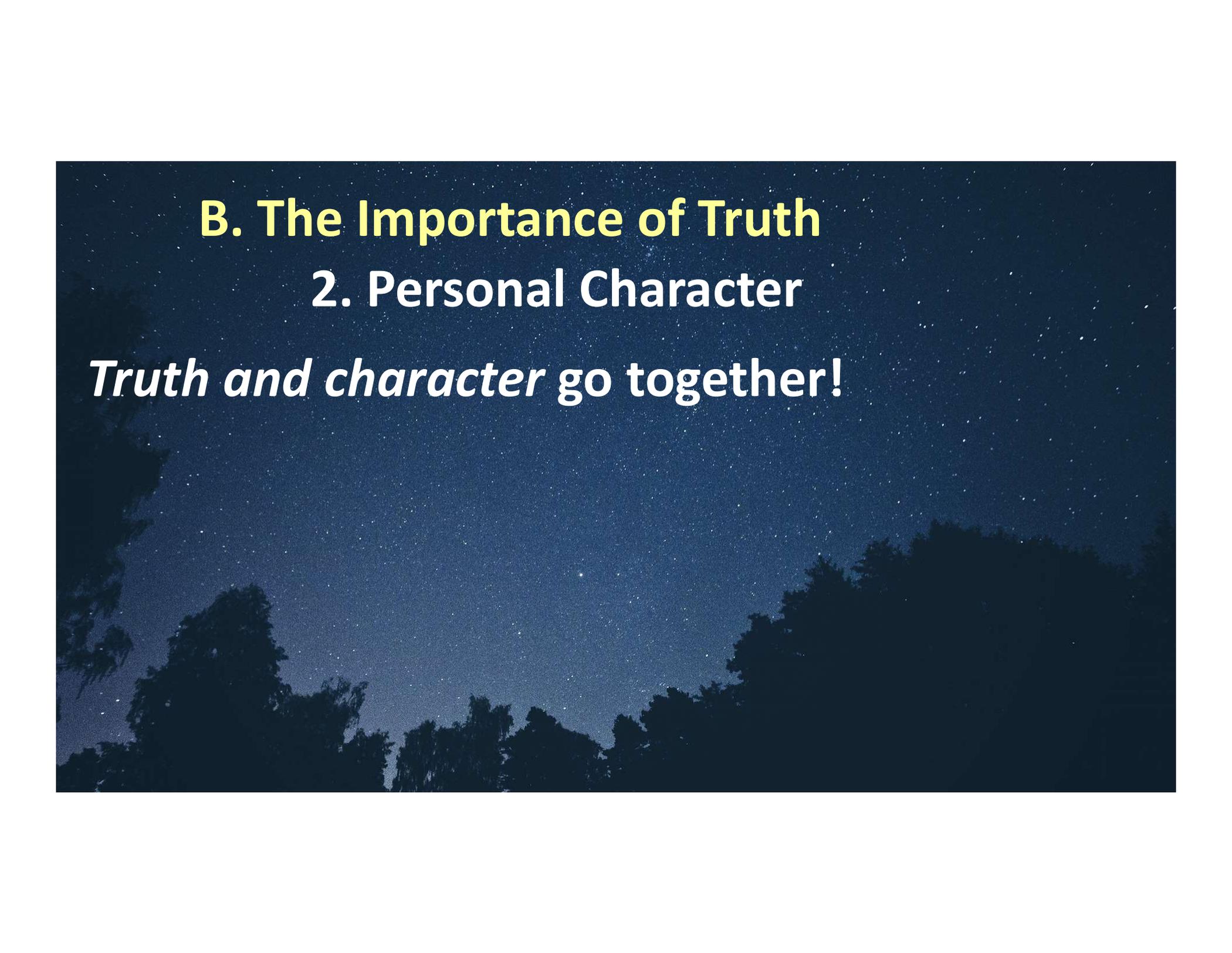
The statement, “*there is no truth*” is a **statement of truth**. It *contradicts itself*. Even trying to deny truth exists, *truth is established*. The idea that **ANYTHING** is wrong, *presupposes something is right, good and true*. Why is that important?

B. The Importance of Truth

1. True and False Doctrine

Truth cuts through the **façade** of what **appears** to be true and *goes to the core problems...*

There is good doctrine and false doctrine. Only when we know **truth** can we *discern between the two.*



B. The Importance of Truth

2. Personal Character

Truth and character go together!

B. The Importance of Truth

3. Right and Wrong

Right, wrong, good and bad: there must be an objective reference. Something in us tells us some things are wrong... Scripture calls this "conscience" in Romans 2.

There is objective truth. But where do we find objective truth?

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

1. A Few Possibilities

Where do we find truth? Many people, books and groups **claim** *to have truth*. But *compare them* and they *contradict themselves*.

Everything can't be true if it is contradictory.

Therefore, every religion and philosophy in the world cannot be true. They can all be wrong, but **not** all true.

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

a. New Age/Occult

Believes in reincarnation, **I** can be god, spells, spirit beings, no absolutes, many gods and goddesses, Jesus was an enlightened person or Avatar, and that there are **many ways** to “god.” Believes, *with many others*, that **I determine truth!**

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

b. Islam

There are the *5 pillars*, and you **work** for *salvation*. There is 1 unknowable god, based on a religion and book created by **1 man**, and areas where *Islam is prominent* there is **no freedom**, lots of control and fear, and state *Jesus is a prophet*. You're never sure if you have *done enough*, use the *Quran and Hadith*.

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

c. Hinduism

...over **350 million gods**, that are *manifestations of 1 god*: Brahman... reincarnation, meditation, you become 1 with the universe and lose individuality, *I'm god but forgot it*... areas where prominent there is a **caste system**, people have no value... "*salvation*" through, use Vedas and Bhagavad-Gita.

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

d. Christianity

There is *1 God in 3 Persons*, focuses on sin and repentance, came from *Judaism*, and uses the **Bible**, which was written over 1500 years by about 40 writers, *claims no error in original writings*, says Jesus is God who died for sinners and by **faith** (no works) one can be *saved* and *receive the forgiveness of sin...* it's historical...

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

2. Must Answer Questions of Life

It must answer the *basic questions of life*, or **worldview** questions. 1. **Origin**: Where did I come from? 2. **Purpose**: Why am I here? 3. **Eternity**: Where am I going? Is there a God and can I know this god? 4. **Reality**: What is truth. 5. **Personality**: Why am I the way I am? 6. **Problems**: Where did evil and death come from?

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

3. Unchanging and Permanent

If truth is unchanging, the foundation must be unchanging too. But if you look at *religious beliefs*, their doctrines have changed over the years. ***Truth doesn't change.***

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

4. Knowable for Everyone

Some say certain knowledge is **attainable** if you are *able to read a certain language – Islam and Aramaic* or they alone know the truth and you must go through certain practices, rituals, initiation rights to learn it – *Freemasonry, Mormonism, New Age.*



Freemasonry
or the
Masonic Lodge

They seek the “lost name of god.” One name they give is “**Jabulon**.” This is a mixture of 3 names: “**Ya**” – the *Hebrew Praise Name for YHWH*, “**bul**” – a form of *Baal*, and “**on**” the *Babylonian term for Osiris*...

C. The Measure of Truth – What or Who...

5. Based in History and Reality

Archaeology, science, language, prophecy.

When was the religion founded? **Who**
founded it? **What** was that person(s) like?
Does the religions history **contradict** what
reliable sources state?

D. The Person(s) of Truth

The **triune God** (*Trinity*) is *1 God* (who) in *3 Persons* (what), formed and based upon **relationship** within the *Godhead*. There is **1 GOD**, not 3. The Father is **NOT** the Son, the Son is **NOT** the Father, the Holy Spirit is **NOT** the Father or Son. Each has His role, but are of the *same essence* – **1 God!** The Bible reveals God as true.

D. The Person(s) of Truth

1. Father

Called Truth - *Deuteronomy 32:4, Isaiah 65:16, Jeremiah 10:10, John 3:33*

Does Not Lie - *Numbers 23:19, 1 Samuel 15:28-29, Titus 1:1-3, Hebrews 6:17-18*

Son Calls the Father True - *John 8:26-27*

D. The Person(s) of Truth

2. Son

Father is True, Therefore What the Son Says is True - *John 8:26-32, 36*

Full of Truth - *John 1:14, 16:7*

Claims to be Truth - *John 7:18, 14:6*

D. The Person(s) of Truth

3. Holy Spirit

Son Calls Him Truth - *John 14:16-17, 15:26, 16:13*

Called Truth - *1 John 5:6*

His Statements are True - *John 16:13-15, 1 Peter 1:22*

D. The Person(s) of Truth

Truth is **Being** and a **book** and *not an abstract thought!* **God** objectively corresponds to reality at all times, in all situations for all people and does not change, *but He changes lives.* **He is!** If God is not a God of truth, then **His word** *is not true.* When we say the Bible is not reliable, we call God a liar!

D. The Person(s) of Truth

Some say: Who are **you** to impose **your** “*truths*” and *values* upon **my** life? One who says *values ought not to be imposed on others*, is attempting to impose their views on you! *Their argument **contradicts** itself!*