

Truth with a capital T

The supremacy of God's Truth must inform all other experiences, rather than those experiences informing what we come to believe is truth.

This is the premise upon which we operate in our Bible studies on Thursday evenings. In light of that, after having pontificated (and discussed!) on the events of the day (February 2018)... you know, school shootings, gun control, Constitutional amendments, safety, political rallies and recommendations, musings from the punditry, etc, etc, etc... here's what we've decided.

These issues are not about anything that anyone says they're about!!

Rather, they are all about Truth. Our goal in our studies is to bring the light of Truth into the matters of life, recognizing and realizing what is at the bottom of them, and then proceeding accordingly. There are two Truths that inform the above stated, current event matters, primarily, and they are these...

The first truth we must remember is this; we live in a fallen world; one in which evil exists. Does it not then fall to those of us who can see this, to protect to the best of our ability, those whom are dependent upon us for such protection? Additionally, we must find ways to do this which preclude us falling into evil ourselves! But to live in a world which *pretends* that all is really, essentially good, and that if we could only *maximize* this good, then all *will* be good in reality... is not to live in reality, but is to live in falsity. Ought we work toward a day when all is good? Well yes, there is a sense in which that is what we should be doing. As we said last week, we address these things thus; "*We work as if all is dependent upon us, and pray and trust as if all is dependent upon God, for it is*".

We approach this matter in the same manner. We will work toward a peaceful world; one absent from evil. But in pursuit of that goal, we remember that Jesus said that *peace will not exist among us until He, the Prince of Peace Himself, returns*. Until then, the reality is that our enemy prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour... spiritually, physically, emotionally, mentally, socially, relationally... Evil is here among us, and we must prepare for it and resist it, else it is victorious, and no one, no one wants that. Except our enemy himself. Selah

The second truth that we must remember is as follows. In all the talk about rights and amendments, we in these United States seem to have lost sight of the reality that the entirety of our Bill of Rights and all its delineated rights were/are for one purpose and one purpose only... precluding tyranny. With the articulation of these rights, the point was being made that human rights come from God, not from man/men/kings, etc.

In light of this, I would encourage any and all, to view these extremely difficult matters (while having proper compassion for those suffering inconceivable loss) in the light of the truth that the goal of our delineated rights is the avoidance of tyranny. Indeed - and I think that after careful consideration you would agree - our very way of life depends upon it.

One of our founders, after whom a town immediately adjacent to Windham, CT was named, who himself was one of the orchestrators of those delineated rights, in light of the dual realities of Truth and tyranny, was remembered to have said, "*Those who would/can give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety*". Benjamin Franklin

Are we embroiled in a battle against tyranny? Opinions exist on both (*every!*) sides of that issue. But can there be any doubt in anyone's mind, that in our present age, we are indeed embroiled in a battle against Truth?! Whether referred to as fake news, stakeholder truths, an individual's own truth, relativism, the social/cultural locus of truth.... however and whatever we call it, all Truth is God's truth. And while there are myriad culture and individual experiences, the reality of the Truth(s) of God must be brought to bear upon them all. The supremacy of God's Truth, must therefore inform all other experiences, rather than those experiences informing what we come to believe is truth.

We won't solve all the problems that plague our culture, nor even necessarily our immediate communities!... but we can and must stand upon that which God has revealed as Truth, and it must inform all that we do, say, believe, share, decide, hold...

All other ground is sinking sand.

Pastor