

CHRIST THE CENTER OF TRUTH

By

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Since the space shuttle exploded before the eyes of millions of TV viewers, the nation has been subjected to a continuous report of the great army of investigators who are assigned to learn the truth about what happened. A newcomer to the American scene might think that this is a nation dedicated to the truth, all the truth, and nothing but the truth.

The irony is in the fact that all this investigation, involving millions of dollars and millions of man-hours, has nothing to do with anything that might affect social, moral or spiritual values of people, and while the truth about a mechanical failure becomes vastly important, the truth about life and its purpose is avoided like the plague.

It is equally ironic that the government and the media are both so determined to bring out the truth on this relatively inconsequential matter while also determined to suppress the truth on any number of more important matters, such as the manipulation of the Federal Reserve System, the international banker's involvement in the drug traffic, Zionist control of men in Congress, objectives of the Trilateral Commission and nay other areas that directly affect our lives.

Jesus said, "The truth will make you free"(John 8:32). It has long been recognized that a free press is essential to a free people, but this is only because the press is expected to keep the people informed by printing the truth. With abut a few exceptions the modern media, both the press and television, has ruled out the revelations of God as the basis of truth, putting Christ and his teaching on an equal basis with all other religions of mankind. In proportion to the suppression of the fact that God is the basis and center of truth, our freedom is eroded away. No matter what is learned about the shuttle disaster and how much technology is advanced, the nation's problems will increase and freedom will disappear unless Christ is recognized as the revelation of truth.

Great strides in civilization were made when the chief interest of leading citizens was discovery of truth. Church leaders debated basic issues and men were willing to suffer ostracism and persecution for their stand on the issues. Out of these conflicts came great revivals and also great social improvements.

Then came "higher criticism," originating in Germany with theologians who questioned the Bible and sneaked in the treacherous concept that we can't be sure what is true. Religion became a matter of passion and feeling. Personal experience became the basis for religious faith. Logic and reason are often ruled out as "legalistic." Sermons are designed to produce proper emotions rather than conviction of truth.

The Reformation was the powerful application of the discovery of the truth of the Scripture. But the influence of Greek philosophy so permeated the schools and the literature that the ministry was never able to give it up completely and today every facet of religion and politics is polluted with the false notions of Plato. Preachers and seminary professors quote Augustine (an avid disciple of Plato) and the interpretation of scripture is often influenced by Greek philosophy more than by honest hermeneutics.

Even in Christian circles the revelation God has given often seem insufficient. In Christian schools it seems to be a mark of professional achievement to examine the

message of God in the light of the experts trained in humanistic institutions of learning such as Harvard and Yale. Instead of Christ being the center of truth, He becomes only one of the guides.

Truth is denied in the very place where it is supposed to be central — in the public schools of our nation. An examination of textbooks shows that in case after case portions of history are either left out completely or slanted in such a way that the truth is censored out. It has been shown by a number of researchers that any reference to the Christian church with respect to events in our national history cannot be found in the textbooks. I asked a high school junior what her class in Modern History taught about communist persecution of Christians. She said that it was never mentioned in the course!

John Lofton, writing in *Chalcedon*, March, 1986, quotes Secretary of Education William Bennett as saying, “There is a kind of official view that there shall be no mention of God, that things having to do with God or particular religious beliefs will not be talked about in the classroom. But as you visit classrooms, you find that this isn’t the case.” When questioned about that last remark, he flatly denied that there were public schools in America where it is taught that God is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge. He defended the teaching that man evolved from lower animals.

The question is, how can one be educated in a school that insists that there be no reference to one’s true origin, his purpose of being nor his ultimate destiny? To deny the truth about these is to negate all that is to be predicated upon them.

A child will spend 15,000 hours in public school classrooms for the purpose of learning, yet his is not to be taught the truth about himself, about the basic pattern of character, about the Master of the universe in which he lives, about absolute morals that should govern his life nor about the ultimate consequences of his decisions.

An example of the futility of learning without truth came to life the other day when I talked to some high school students who were ditching classes and loafing behind the church building. When I suggested that they ought to take advantage of the opportunity to go to school, one of them asked, “Why?” I said something like, “So you can graduate and go on to college and get a degree.” He asked, “Why?” I started to tell him that his would enable him to get started on a career, but I knew his next question would be “Why?”. If there is no basic purpose grounded in God, then there is no ultimate answer to his “Why?”.

In the meantime he is being equipped with greater technical knowledge, his potential for power is being expanded and his desire for using that knowledge and power is intensified.

To increase technical knowledge without the instructions (truth) to use it properly and to increase power without the truth to direct it, is to create a Frankenstein monster out of society. Its ultimate end will be like that of the monster, destruction.

God reveals that when men “receive not the love of the truth...God sends them a working of error, that they should believe a lie; that they all might be judged who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (II Thess. 2:10–11). When education rejected God, it readily took up faith in the lie of evolution. Add to this the modern fantasies in the many cults, the false prophetic concepts such as those of Hal Lindsey and other fanciful notions held in the name of religion, such as reincarnation, “out-of-body experiences” and special “revelations.”

Much that is labeled Christian is built upon personal feeling, emotions and a mere desire for religious experiences rather than upon that which Christ revealed. You are more likely to hear someone say, "I feel this is right" than, "I must obey the Lord." While God has spoken on issues such as adultery, abortion, homosexuality, capital punishment, as well as taxation, covetousness, education and even health, you wouldn't know it from the variety of opinions held in the churches. Modern pulpits are generally silent on these subjects, for fear of offending someone in the pews. Paul asked the Galatians, "Am I become your enemy by telling you the truth?" Many preachers fear nothing so much as they fear making an enemy! The church has given up truth for what is "normal." If enough people adopt gutter-style living, it eventually appears as normal, but it also is destructive.

What is truth? Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." To deny Jesus is to deny truth. A nation which through its courts, its media and its schools refuses to have Christ as the center of truth is on the road to enslavement.

To know the truth, one must accept its author, Christ; without Him all is quicksand. To love truth is to love Christ. No matter where you start, the only solid foundation is Christ. He is the center of truth.

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