



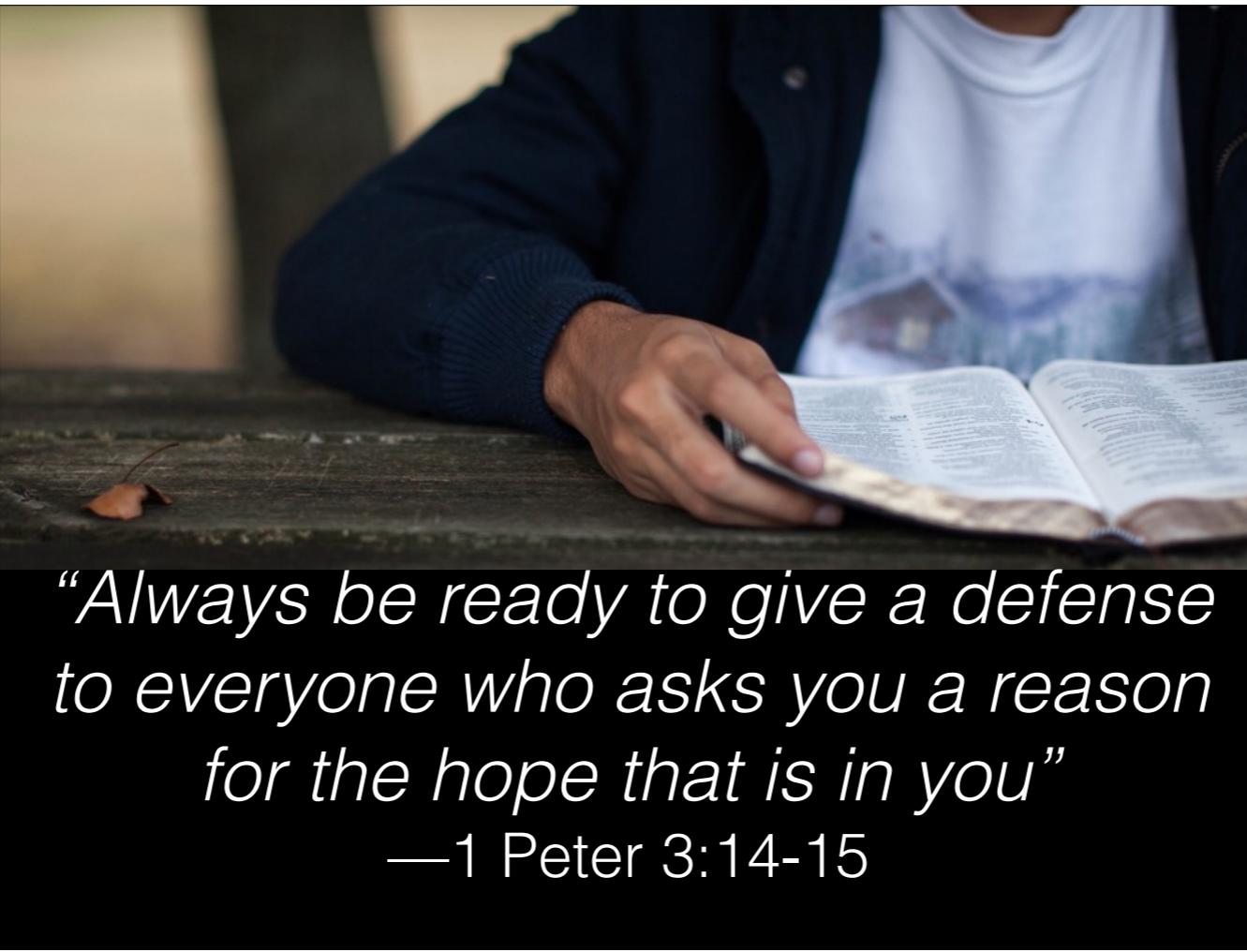
Introduction - The Authority of the Bible in Culture

—Is the Bible True?

“The Bible says ...” At one time that statement was the end of every argument and the authority upon which you could rest your case.

— I can pound the pulpit and declare it to be true. .. and I believe that it is, but we must learn to articulate the truth of God’s Word clearly in this culture. We must be able to “give an answer” as to why we believe God’s Word is true.

1 Peter 3:14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. “And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.”[a] 15 But sanctify the Lord God[b] in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;



*“Always be ready to give a defense
to everyone who asks you a reason
for the hope that is in you”*

—1 Peter 3:14-15

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What is TRUTH?

Culture demands ... and deserves an answer.



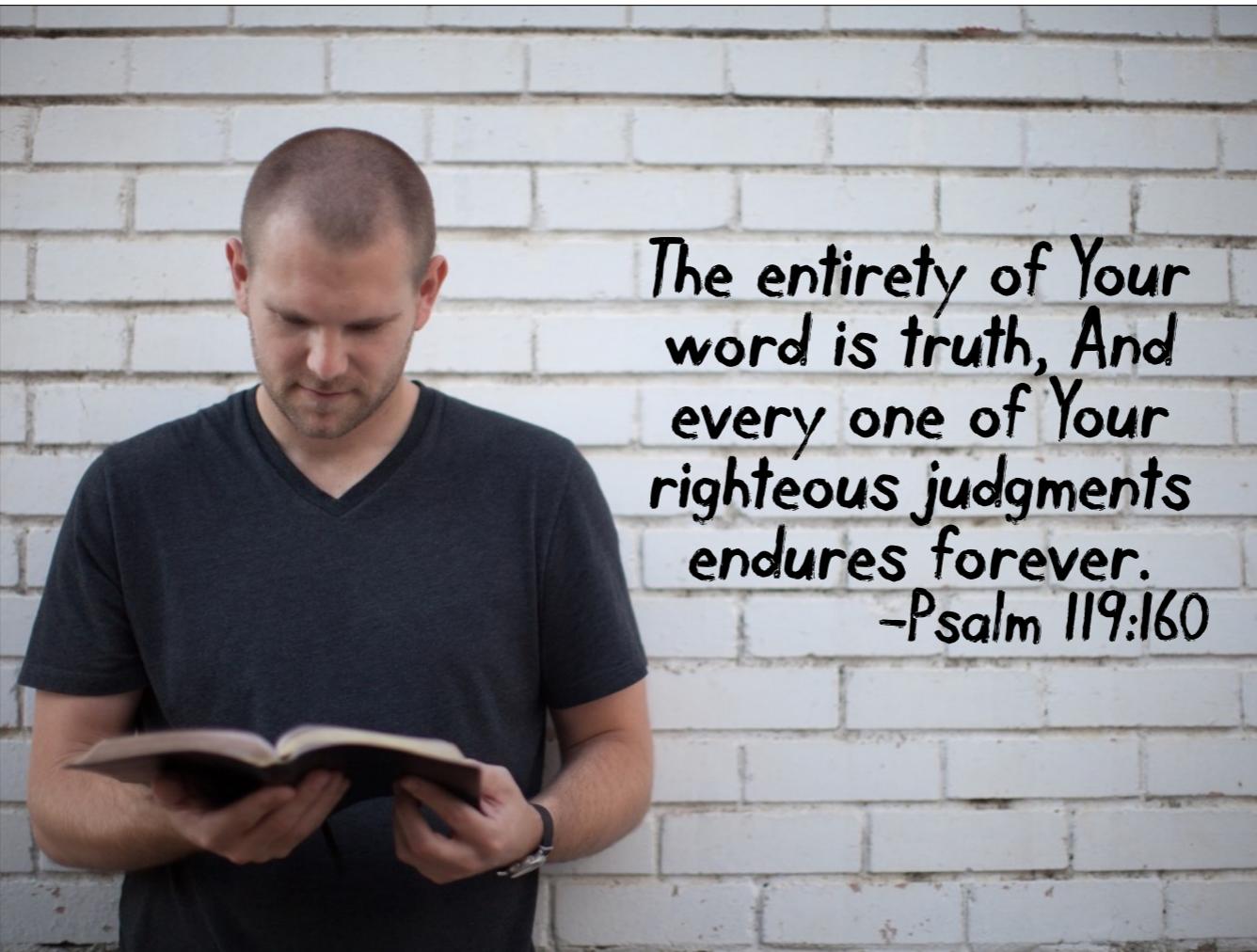
April 29, 2015
Terry R Baughman, Lead Pastor

What is Truth?

Culture demands an answer ... and Culture deserves an answer.

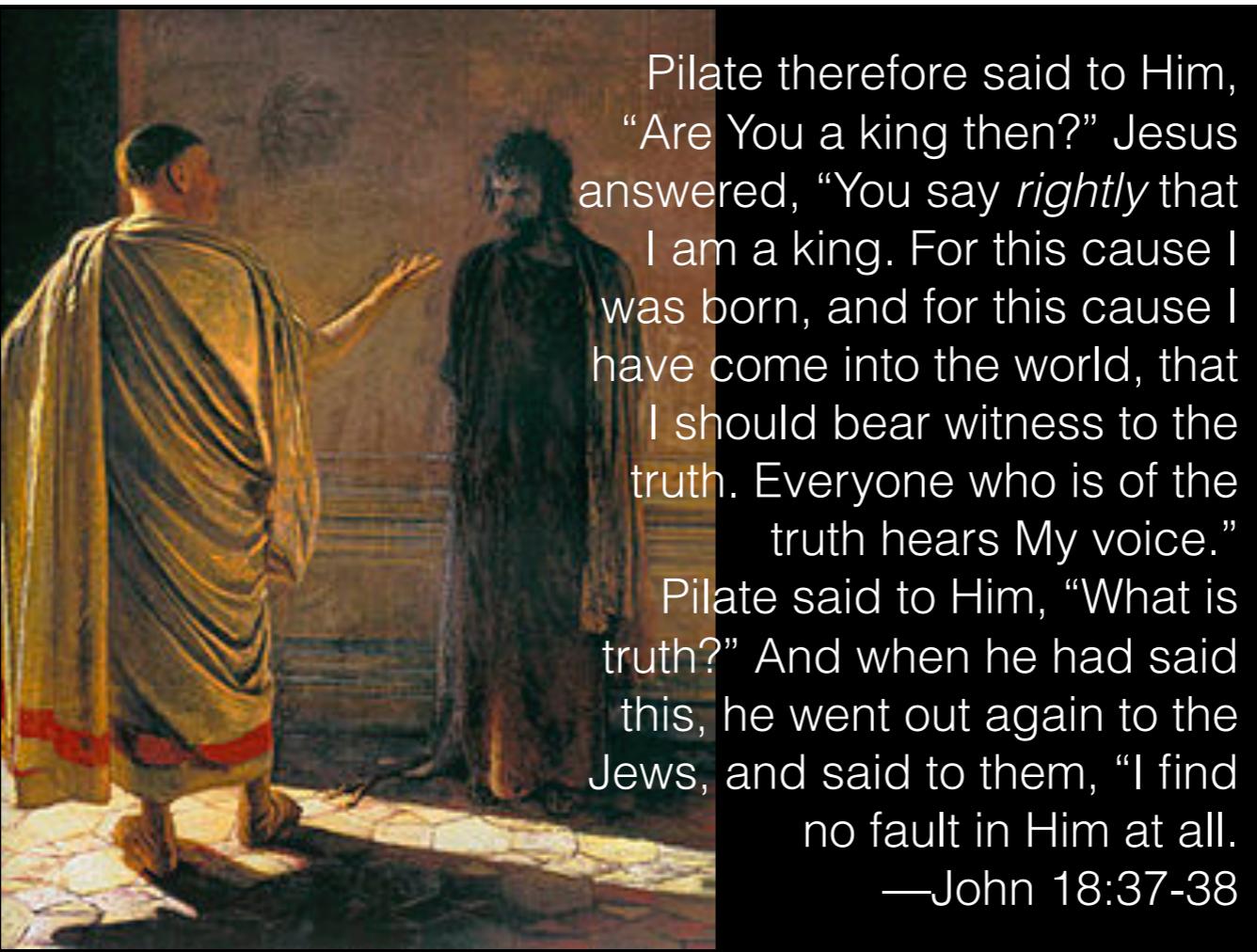
— I plan to teach several lessons in this series.

- First of all we will establish a foundation for the Word of God as being truth.
- We will establish core doctrines of our faith in Jesus Christ and who He is
- Then we will approach some topics of apologetics — defending truth in an unbelieving culture.



The entirety of Your
word is truth, And
every one of Your
righteous judgments
endures forever.
-Psalm 119:160

Psalm 119:160 “The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.”



Pilate therefore said to Him, “Are You a king then?” Jesus answered, “You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.”

Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?” And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, “I find no fault in Him at all.

—John 18:37-38

The Historical Question —

Wikipedia — “This verse has been widely quoted and alluded to in culture and literature, particularly in that of philosophical nature. While Pilate's question -- whether intended philosophically, jestfully, rhetorically, or born of frustration at the lack of a plain answer -- is by no means the only incident of someone questioning the nature of truth, it has been drawn upon many times as a significant occurrence thereof.”

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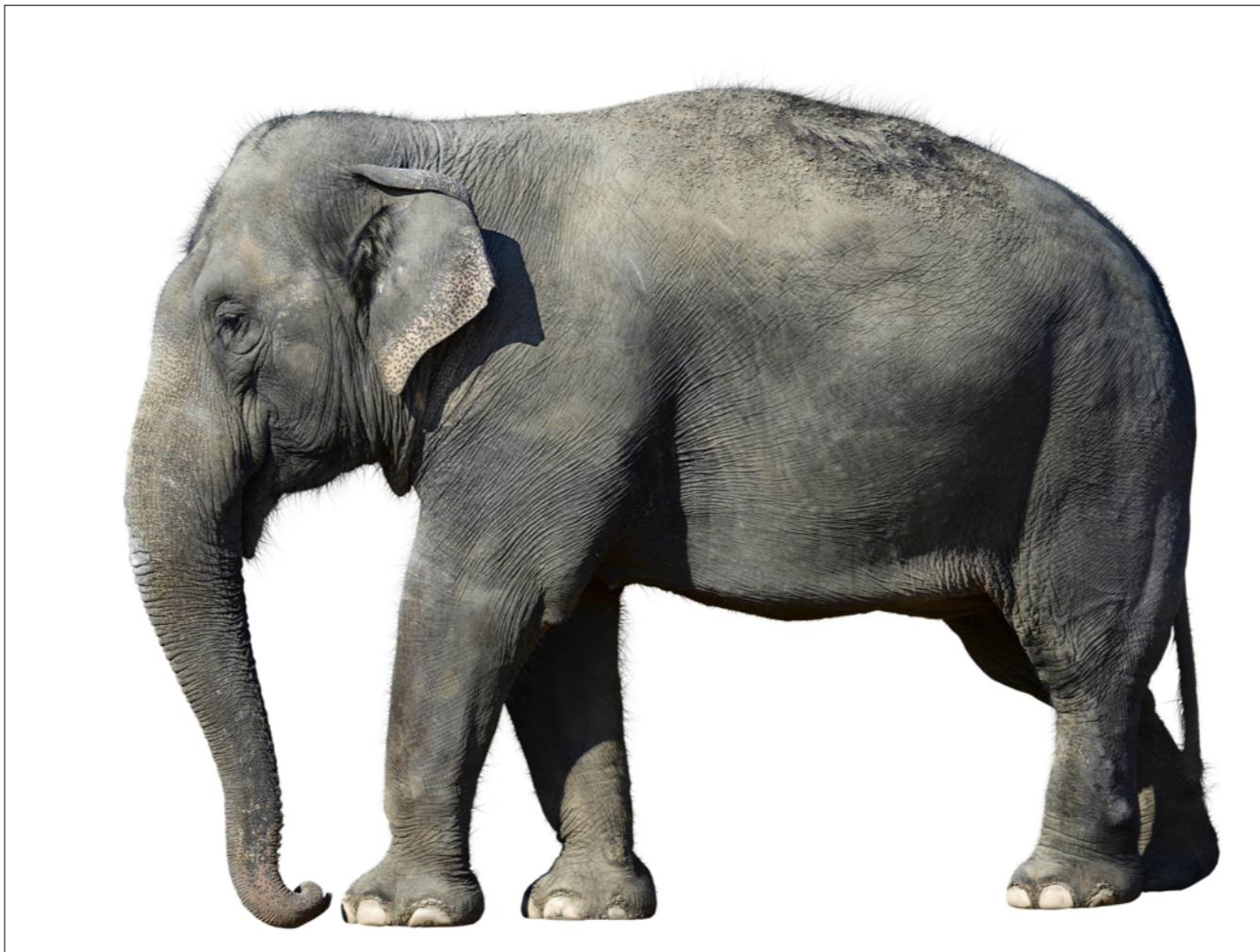
What is TRUTH?

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”
—John 14:6

What is Truth?

Jesus also answered in self-declaration

—John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.



The Postmodern philosophy —

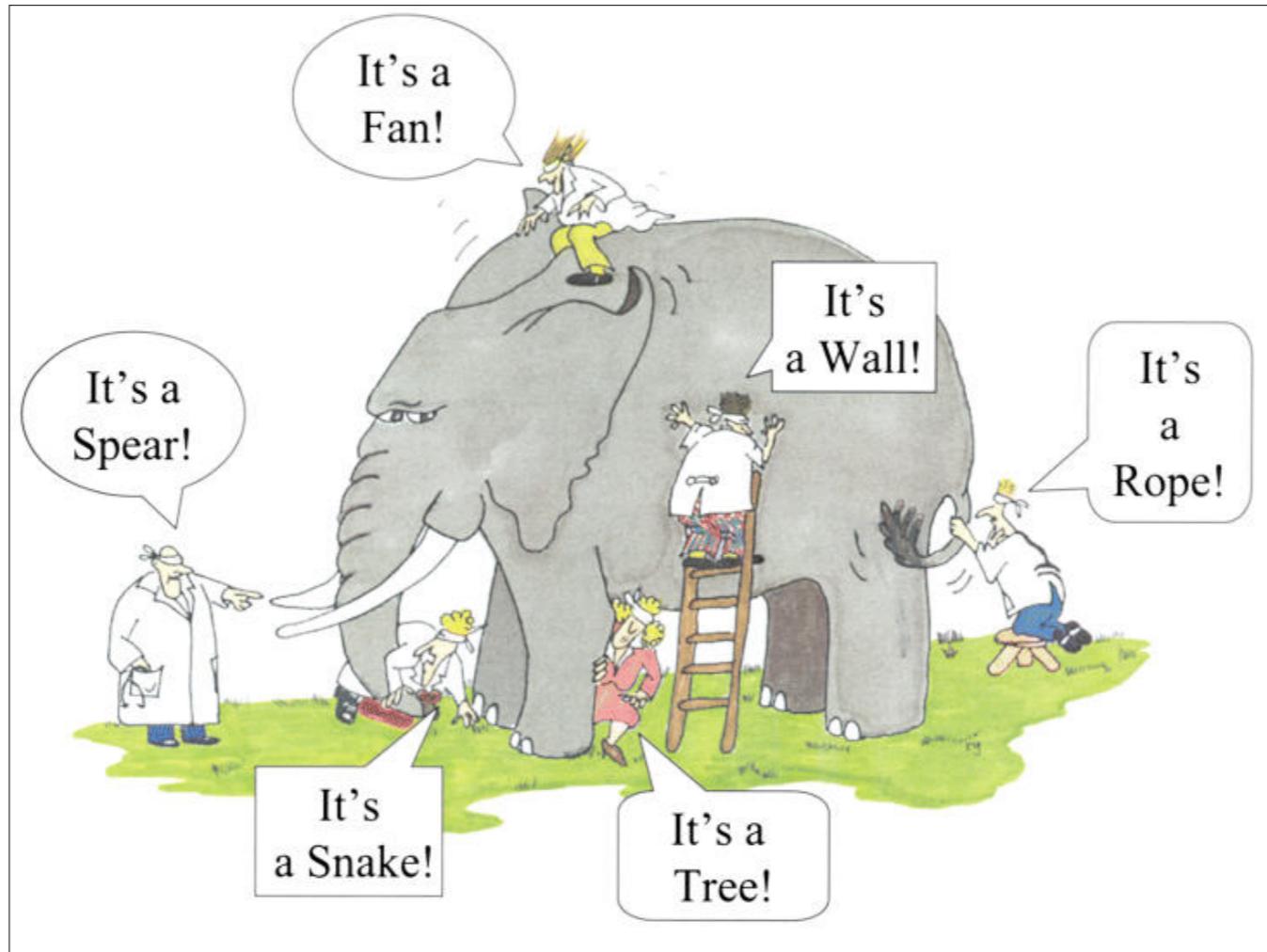
There is no absolute truth ... truth is whatever you perceive it to be

This reminds me of the story of the Six blind men that began to describe an elephant...[American poet John Godfrey Saxe (1816-1887) based this poem on a fable that was told in India many years ago.]

“Six men of Indostan, To learning much inclined,
Who went to see the Elephant, (Though all of them were blind),
That each by observation, Might satisfy his mind....”

Each of the six feels a different part of the elephant and then describes to the others what he has discovered.

...



Each of the six feels a different part of the elephant and then describes to the others what he has discovered.

- 1 — elephant's leg round and rough like a tree.
- 2 — feels the tusk and describes the elephant as a spear.
- 3 — grabs the tail and insists that an elephant is like a rope.
- 4 — discovers the trunk and insists that the elephant is like a large snake.
- 5 — ear is like a great fan
- 6 — side is like a wall

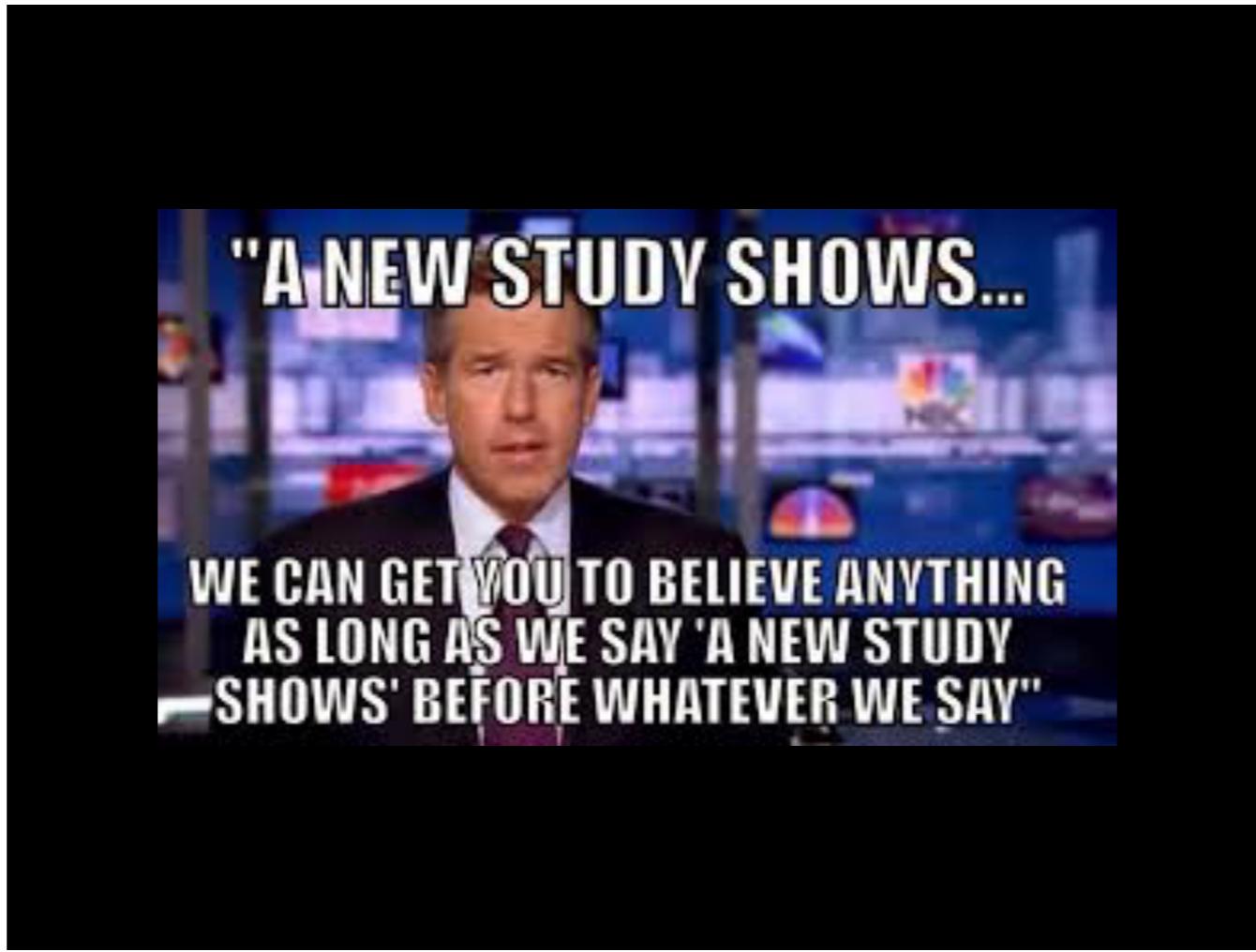
"And so these men of Indostan, Disputed loud and long,
Each in his own opinion, Exceeding stiff and strong,
Though each was partly in the right, And all were in the wrong!"

No Absolutes?



Are You Absolutely Sure?

The quandary of postmodernism — no absolutes, absolutely



Does Truth matter?

NBC news anchor has been suspended from his position at "Nightly News" after he was caught "expanding the truth" - He lied about being in a helicopter that was fired on in Iraq.

Does truth matter? —

Brian Williams, the embattled NBC news anchor whose credibility plummeted after he acknowledged exaggerating his role in a helicopter episode in Iraq, has been suspended for six months without pay, the network said on Tuesday night.

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/11/business/media/brian-williams-suspended-by-nbc-news-for-six-months.html?_r=0



What color is
the dress?

Some things are not what they appear?

There is still a value on truth.



Pinocchio is a bad motivational speaker

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.



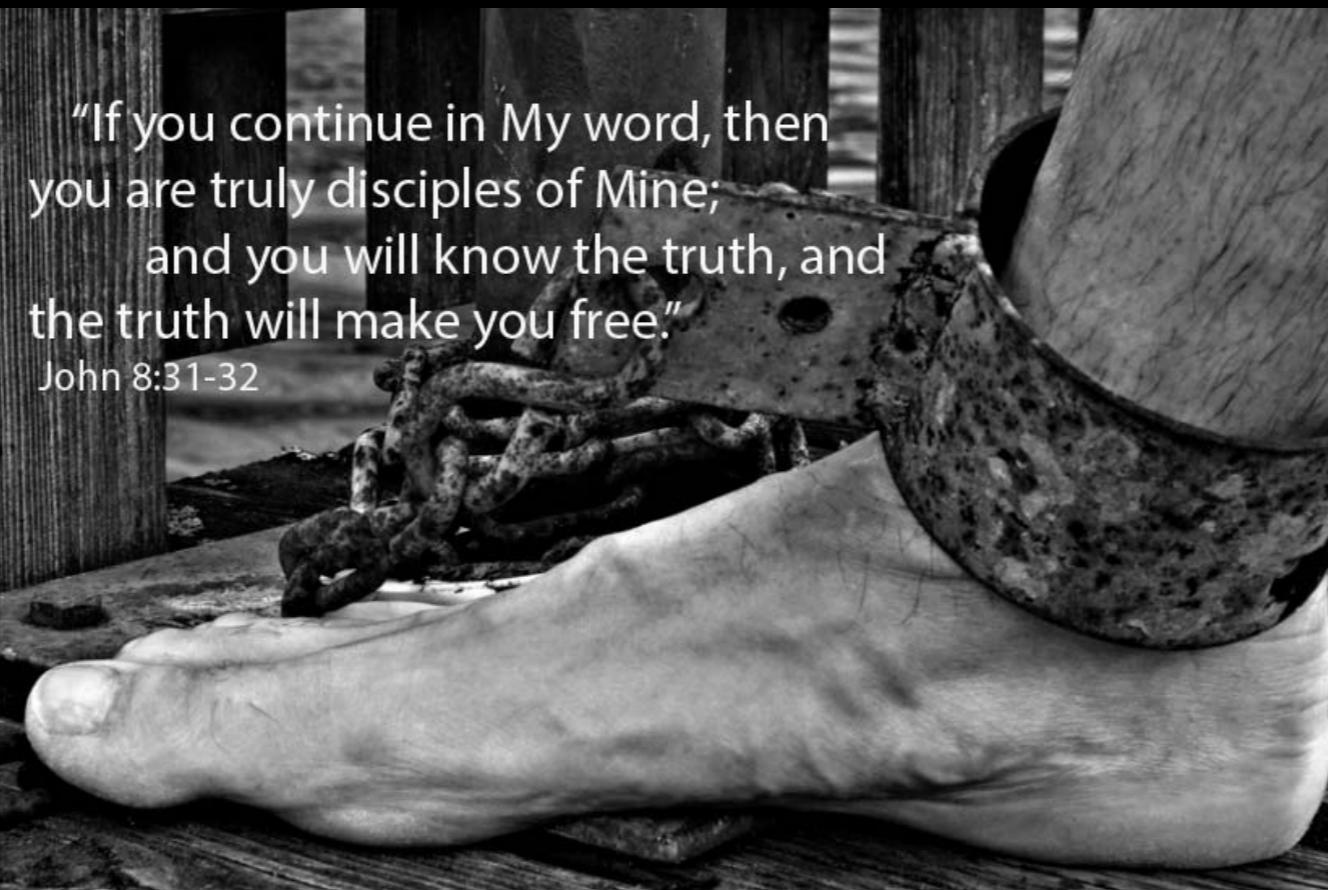
Truth

—John 14:16-18

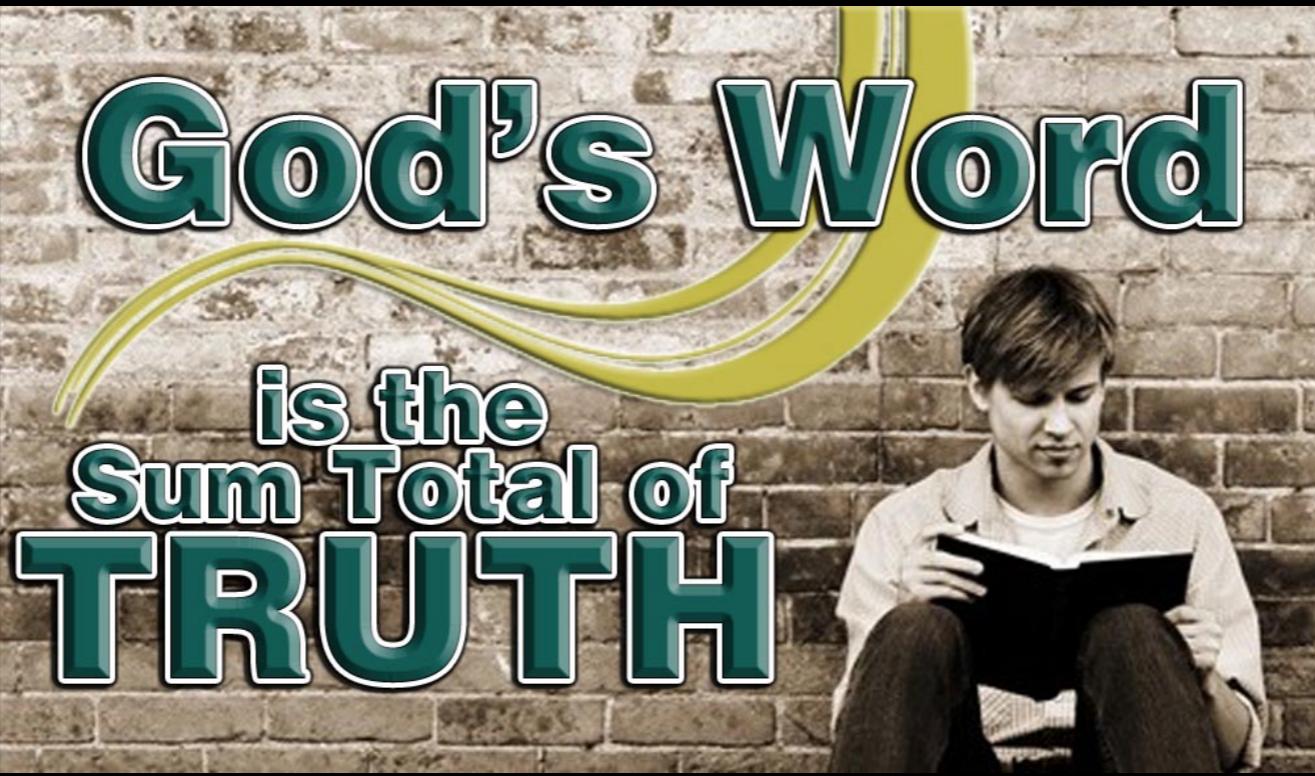
John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

"If you continue in My word, then
you are truly disciples of Mine;
and you will know the truth, and
the truth will make you free."

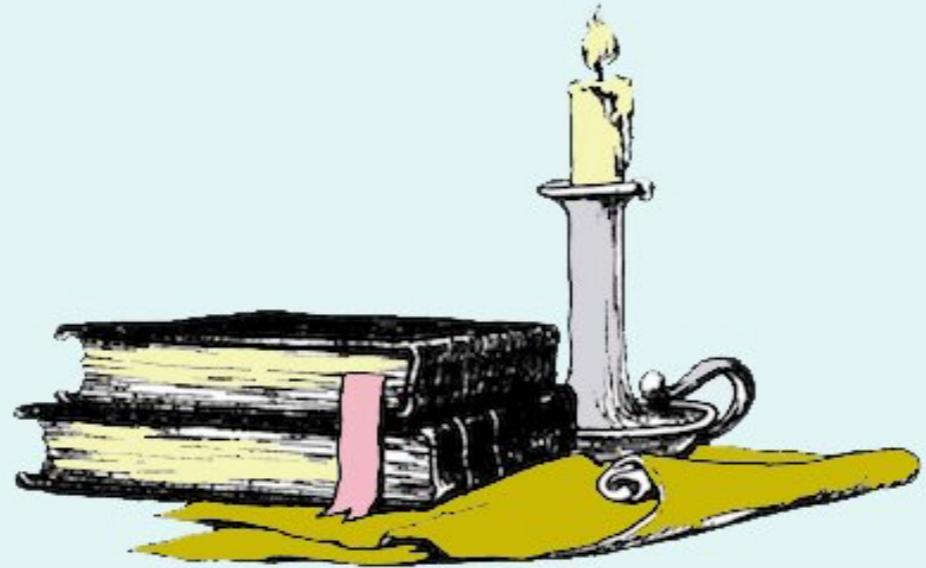
John 8:31-32



John 8:31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."



If the Bible is just a book of
fairy-tales, then why is it banned
in at least 52 countries?



No one goes to jail for reading the Iliad,
the Odyssey, or Aesop's Fables.

What is TRUTH?

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

—John 17:17



April 29, 2015

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