THE ULTIMATE TRUTH WAR
The kingdom of darkness battles intensively against the kingdom of light for people’s souls. Satan (as grand conspirator) employs two age-old strategies: attacking the validity of the Word of God and discrediting the gospel. Starting in the garden, he tempted Eve with “Did God really say?” (See Gen. 3:1; 2 Tim. 2:15; Rev. 12:9).

A HEAVENLY VANTAGE POINT
Truth is not arbitrary; it flows from God’s nature. His existence and character are solid, unchangeable, and absolute.11

[b] The missing piece in our broken world. Today’s culture is disillusioned by the lack of solutions to fix our world. Pursuits of freedom, peace, acceptance, and love remain unfulfilled. Such is the human predicament; we live in a fallen world requiring a Savior. Jesus Christ is the Missing Piece who can redeem us and fill the void in our hearts for authentic love (John 3:16; 7:37-38). We are priceless souls, created in the image of God to personally know Him…now and forever.

Relativism in all forms is shaky and subjective, whereas biblical Christianity is solid and certain. You can choose to anchor your hope on the shifting sands of “interpretive truth” or on the firm ground of objective truth—revealed to us through Scripture and Jesus.

On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other grounds is sinking sand.12

REFERENCES:

A PRAYER TO DISCERN BIBLICAL TRUTH
“Lord, I acknowledge You as the Source of all truth. Please help me to discern between biblical truth and unbiblical interpretations that arise from worldly philosophy. May Your Holy Spirit illuminate Your Word to me. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

THE GREATEST LOVE KNOWN
I am a way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6)

Jesus’ promise is the most loving and important message ever delivered. His followers are to tell the world:

A PRAYER FOR SALVATION
“Father God, thank You for revealing Your love and truth to us. Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for my sins and rising from the dead to give me eternal life. I receive You as my Lord and Savior. Lord, I trust You and want to have a relationship with You forever. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

IS TRUTH RELATIVE OR OBJECTIVE?
Knowledge Truth Facts Opinions Perceptions

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5 THE MISSING PIECE
[a] The missing piece in the truth puzzle. Man’s reasoning is insufficient; God’s revelation is needed.2 Creator-God has given us a heavenly vantage point from which to know reality as it truly is. He has revealed objective truth: (1) through the written Word (the Bible, authored and illuminated by the Holy Spirit) and (2) through the Incarnate Word (the Son of God, who took on human form to communicate with us and be in relationship with us). Hence, such supernatural communications, directly from our Creator to us, are accessible to us irrespective of our culture, biases, language, upbringing, or community.

Challenges to “Christian” Postmodernism
[a] CP distorts God’s revealed truth. CP wages a “truth war”2 by advancing a philosophy contrary to Christ (Col. 2:8). It redefines Christian doctrines such as sin, salvation, atonement, and the gospel.3 It embraces religious pluralism (all roads lead to God) in opposition to the good news: that the sinless Son of God sacrificially shed His blood on the cross to reconcile us to holy God (Rom. 5:9-11; 2 Thes. 1:8-10).

Understanding Truth in Today’s Culture

Introduction

We live in an increasingly relativistic age. Relativism claims that what we might think is knowledge (a firm grasp of truth and reality) is only an opinion. A fact, value, or outlook on life can be “true for you” but “not true for me.” But is truth relative or objective? Is truth dependent or independent of people’s perceptions? This issue is monumental in scope. For if biblical Christianity is the worldview that covers all of life and reality ("total truth"), then relativism bars people from personally knowing the Creator-God and His transforming truth.

Our current crisis of truth arose out of a philosophical shift that took place a few decades ago. Postmodernism presented a subjective view of truth. (See chart, “Three Worldviews.”) Below is a brief analysis of four avenues of relativism, followed by a Christian response.

- Postmodernism
- The New Tolerance
- Moral Relativism
- “Postmodern” Christianity
- The Missing Piece

1 Postmodernism

Postmodernism (PM) is edging out modernism as the prevailing mode of thought influencing our culture, casting a shadow over logical reasoning and the scientific method. It asserts that all truth is based on perspective. Objective truth is nonexistent or unknowable; we cannot arrive at it through science, logic, or tradition. Today’s PM philosophers conclude: “Our only access to reality requires interpretation, which is done from the standpoint of one’s community, culture, and language. So there are a number of interpretations of reality.” Even to have an experience requires interpretation.

2 The New Tolerance

Relativism’s top virtue is the New Tolerance (NT). Traditionally, tolerance meant allowing for beliefs or behaviors you consider false or disagreeable. However, this NT (a dominant theme taught in our schools for at least a generation) has come to mean accepting all values, practices, and truth claims as equal. While well intended, this mind-set leads to religious pluralism (no religion is exclusively true), multiculturalism (no truth transcends culture), and moral relativism (no moral values are universal). Grounded in postmodern thinking, the NT accepts any contradictory moral/religious beliefs.

3 Moral Relativism

Moral Relativism (MR) claims that moral values are humanly made. There are no universally valid morals that are true for all people at all times. The underlying motivation for MR is freedom from all behavioral standards. Individuals can base their moral choices on feelings, beliefs, or the situation at hand. Without a firm moral foundation, however, there could be no safe, orderly society. Another flaw of MR is that it cannot account for (a) moral reformers, such as Martin Luther King Jr., who fought for civil rights, or (b) for moral progress in a culture, such as abolishing atrocities like child sacrifices.

4 “Christian” Postmodernism

Tying PM to Christianity leads to heresies. Proponents of Christian Postmodernism (CP) and the “emergents” are viewing the Christian faith through the lens of PM. Emerging churches are a diverse network of “communities that practice the way of Jesus within postmodern cultures.” Yet in their attempt to reach the emerging generation, many of them (including supposedly conservative churches) are altering both their message and their ministry style. Many accept religious pluralism, redefine core Christian doctrines, and undermine the genuine gospel.

CP denies we can know if Christianity is objectively true. Even the Jesus who actually exists becomes unknowable, for we are limited to our own “construction” of the Savior. Biblical doctrines come from the