



**CAPITOL<sup>®</sup>  
COMMISSION**

*Gospel Hope & Spiritual Strength for Government Leaders*



**Ron Comoglio, Alabama State Minister**

Ron.Comoglio@capitolcom.org

PHONE: (334) 476-9333

WWW.CAPITOLCOM.ORG

**Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6**

## What is Truth?

You may recognize the text verse above is the same as last month’s Bible study—this is intentional. Then we studied Jesus’ preeminence as the only way to access the Creator God of the world. Now we will look at the next part of the same phrase where He identifies Himself as “the truth”, another very bold claim.

In our politically charged, competitive culture we claim ours to be the truthful side, while our opponents all lie. Logically speaking, both sides can’t be right simultaneously. And, if we are honest with ourselves, we should acknowledge we are not always truthful, including toward those we love (and even to ourselves)! Add to this the rampant misinformation capabilities of the internet and the result is a growing lack of trust in anything as truthful. We find ourselves cynically asking, “What is truth, really?”

This very question was asked in Scripture by none other than Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor over Judea who oversaw Jesus’ execution on the cross. Speaking directly to Jesus we see this remarkable interchange:

**<sup>33</sup> So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” <sup>35</sup> Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” <sup>37</sup> Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup> Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”**  
-- John 18:33-38a (ESV, emphasis mine)

Capitol Commission state ministers are pastor-missionaries who in session teach weekly verse-by-verse Bible studies for all those working in state capitols. The Bible studies are hand distributed to each legislative office and available by email and shared across the Capitol Commission community. This ministry is an extension of the church seeking to proclaim the gospel message and help believers mature through Biblical expositional instruction. Prayer is foundational to this ministry, consistent with proper submission to governmental authority (Romans 13:1-7) and obedient to the command to pray for our appointed leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

Our desire is to witness God’s work in transforming hearts.

Capitol Commission is a non-political and non-lobbying 501(c)(3).

That sneering response from Pilate is easy to imagine. Questioning the existence of an absolute truth has been a standard philosophy pastime for many centuries. A separate field of metaphysics even debates how we can know if something is “real”; what may be real to you might not be real to me. Others teach “truth” as something relative and differently defined by each person’s life experiences. But this means we can never question facts and situations get very shaky, especially when facts matter, as in a criminal case. Refuting this stands one authoritative, independent figure, towering over all of history—Jesus Christ, this very king Pilate sought to release—who definitively declares there is an absolute and unchanging truth. And He is it!

Rather than try to prove Jesus’ assertion logically, I would rather look quickly at Scripture and ask why Jesus came to testify to truth: Because lies are a huge problem, stemming from our common enemy, the devil. At the beginning of the Bible, he was the one who slithered into the Garden of Eden and suggestively asked, “Did God actually say...?” (Gen 3:1) From that day when the first couple doubted God’s truthfulness, humankind has struggled with the truth and who gets to arbitrate it. Contrast the serpent’s way with how Jesus taught saying “Truly (amen)”--or as the NIV translates it “I tell you the truth” (see usage in Matthew 5:26; 6:2, 5, 16; and 10:15). God distinctly warns that He opposes those who deal in untruths (lies): “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness **suppress the truth.**” Romans 1:18 (ESV, emphasis mine). Now one can see that when Paul wrote about suppression of the truth, it really means the suppression of Jesus and His message.

Jesus’ strong declaration and identification with TRUTH is significant and comforting to our consciences, which are wired to seek justice, righteousness, and peace. Our inability to generate genuine peace, lasting righteousness, and true justice rightly frustrates us. Government provides some levels of societal peace and man-made justice but only God can give permanent peace and perfect justice. Also, God intends the local church to be that place where truth is defended, as stated in 1 Timothy 3:15, “...you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.” So what our society needs is to regain trust in the institutions, especially the Church, to encourage people to embrace the truth, whose name is Jesus.

### Applications

1. How do you view the concept of truth? Did you realize that ultimate truth has a name?
2. Have you surrendered your will and life to follow Jesus? How would that change your perspective on your ability to know truth in a personal way? (John 8:31-32; 1 Timothy 2:3-4)
3. Have you twisted facts to make a truth claim that took advantage of others? Could you/should you make restitution for that? (Luke 19:8-10; Ephesians 4:25)

I am available to discuss any biblical topic but especially to ensure all who read this understand that Jesus Christ is distinctively important to the entire world.

**NOTE: Plans are being set for an in-house Bible Study during session. Tuesdays at 11:00 am in Room 123. Bring a beverage, food will be provided.**

---

***A key facet empowering our ministry is prayer, especially prayer for our elected leaders. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 commands Christians to obediently pray for all in authority. A tool for America’s churches to help consistently pray for you, our elected leaders, is available to all via:***

***[www.Pray1Tim2.org](http://www.Pray1Tim2.org) - You can select Alabama and sign up for daily email reminders, courtesy of Capitol Commission***