

“Rediscovering our Foundations”

Part 1

“Does the Truth Really Matter”

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Today I begin a new series I am calling *Rediscovering Our Foundations*. What concerns me as we begin another new year is the vast biblical illiteracy that exists in our country in general and in our churches in particular.

“Rediscovering our Foundations”

Part 1 “Does the Truth Really Matter”

Truth is commonly seen by our culture as relative and not fixed. Often sentiments such as, "Well, that is your truth, but it's not my truth," are expressed by many. But if truth is absolute, then why not stand up for it?

“Rediscovering our Foundations”

Part 1 “Does the Truth Really Matter”

Why be embarrassed about it? What do you really believe about God, the Trinity, Christ, mankind, the church, heaven, and hell

The Creed of Nicea

"We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, the maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten by the Father,

The Creed of Nicea

God from God, light from light, true God from true God; begotten not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made for us and for our salvation he came down from heaven.

The Creed of Nicea

By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried, and on the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures.

The Creed of Nicea

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. And his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

The Creed of Nicea

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

The Creed of Nicea

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen."

I. The Concern for Knowing the Truth (vv. 1-2)

Jude vs.3

“Put up a good fight and a defense for the faith, once for all delivered”

A. Doctrine means instruction or teaching

Vs.1 Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all
longsuffering and doctrine

2 Timothy 2:16 all Scripture is given by
inspiration of God and is profitable for

A. Doctrine means instruction or teaching

Doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction
in righteousness that the man of God

May be complete, thoroughly equipped for
every good work

A. Doctrine means instruction or teaching

Hosea 4 “My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge”

“Until I come give attention to reading, exhortation and doctrine”

A.Doctrine means instruction or
teaching

Titus 2:1 “Teach what is in accord with sound
doctrine.”

James Montgomery Boyce

"We do not have a strong church today nor do we have many strong Christians. We can trace the cause to an acute lack of sound spiritual knowledge. Ask an average Christian to talk about God.

James Montgomery Boyce

And after getting past the expected answers,
you will find that his God is a little god,
vacillating sentiments."

A. Jesus Rebuked Religious Leaders For Lack of Knowledge Four Times

“Have you not read?”

Paul wrote “Now brethren, I don’t want you
to be ignorant concerning the coming of the
Lord

A. Jesus Rebuked Religious Leaders For Lack of Knowledge Four Times

“I write these things so that you won’t be ignorant about spiritual gifts.”

Harvard College was erected on
Plymouth Rock in 1636

“Dreading to leave an illiterate ministry to the
churches when our resent ministers shall lie in
dust.

Harvard College was erected on
Plymouth Rock in 1636

Harvard University was erected so that
ministers wouldn't be illiterate in order that
their congregations wouldn't be spiritually
illiterate.

The Consequences of Neglecting the Truth (vv. 3-4)

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine. But according to their own desires, because they have itching ears,

The Consequences of Neglecting the Truth (vv. 3-4)

they will keep up for themselves teachers.
They will turn their ears away from the truth
and be turned aside to fables."

McCall's magazine survey among
3000 Protestant ministries.

56 percent of these ministries rejected the
virgin birth.

71 percent rejected the idea of life after death.

54 percent rejected the bodily resurrection of
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II. Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

1. You open yourself up to any lie

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

“We should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men in cunning craftiness in which they lie in wait to deceive.”

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

2. you'll die spiritually

In today's culture we have a built in resistance
to the truth.

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

"the Lord says an astonishing and horrible thing has been committed in the land. The prophets prophesy falsely. The priests rule by their own power and my people love to have it so."

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

Jeremiah, “Your words were found and I did eat them and they were the joy and the rejoicing of my heart.”

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

25% percent of born-again Christians read their
Bibles every day.

57% percent don't read it other than at church

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

32% percent find it too difficult to understand.

"Be doers of the word, not hearers only," like James said, "lest you be deceived."

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

"They come to you as people do and they sit before you as my people. And they hear your words but they do not do them.

Consequences For Turning Away From the Truth

Indeed you are to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice. For they hear your words but they do not do them."

I.

III. The Calling to Nurture the Truth
(vv. 5-8)

The Benefits of Loving, believing, and
nurturing the truth.

1. It brings salvation

The Benefits of Loving, believing, and nurturing the truth.

2. It brings joy

3. It gives direction

The Benefits of Loving, believing, and nurturing the truth.

4. It promotes victory in spiritual battles
5. It will enhance your growth

The Benefits of Loving, believing, and nurturing the truth.

John 17 Jesus prayed, "Lord, sanctify them by your truth. Your word is truth." That's why Peter wrote, "As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word that you may grow thereby."