



Part 1
Faith Under Fire

John 18:33 – 38

John 18:33 – 38 – ³³ Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

³⁴ “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”

*³⁵ “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “It was **your** people and **your** chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”*

³⁶ Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

³⁷ “You are a king, then!”

*Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, **for this reason** I was born, and **for this** I came into the world, to TESTIFY TO THE TRUTH. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”*

³⁸ “What is truth?”

Truth is one of the most important issues Jesus addressed.

- *He said, “I tell you the truth . . .” over 75 times in the Gospels.*
- *In the Gospel of John alone he used the double emphatic, “Truly, truly is say to you . . .” 25 times.*
- *John 1:17 – For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*
- *John 14:6 – Jesus – “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*
- *John 17:17 – “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”*
- *John 4:24 – “...worship in spirit and in truth.”*
- *John 8:32 – “. . . you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

Genesis 3:4 & 5 – “⁴ You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

- John 14:16 – 17 – ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth.

And, “. . . when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.” John 16:13

“Truth is that which affirms **propositionally** the nature of **reality as it is.**” (Ravi Zacharias, in *The Truth Project*)

TAKE AWAYS

#1 – Don’t _____ from the truth – turn **to** it.

2 Timothy 4:3 & 4 – ³ For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

#2 – Don’t _____ the truth – try to understand it the best you can and accept it on God’s terms. Wrestle with its meaning but embrace it as it is.

Acts 20:30 – “. . . men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.”

#3 – Don’t _____ the truth because it is difficult and may make you uncomfortable at times . . . obey it.

Romans 2:8 – But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

Some things to think and talk about this week:

Discuss with someone, how **you** would answer the question, “What is truth?”

Relativism is the view that right and wrong depend on the individuals and groups holding them.

Absolutism is the view that right and wrong are **objective** standards of behavior.

What do these definitions mean?

How would **you** answer the question, “How do you determine what is right and what is wrong?”