

The “5 Truths” of the Gospel

Truth #1: Already Forgiven – all of your sins were forgiven on the Cross of Christ, except the sin of unbelief. Mark 3:28; Romans 5:10a; John 16:8-9

Truth #2: Made Clean – when you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God takes out your old sinful spirit (heart) and gives you a brand, new clean heart. Romans 6:6; Romans 6:17-18; John 3:3,7

Truth #3: Made Righteous – as a Christian, you are now righteous in your spirit because Jesus, in the form of the Holy Spirit, lives in you. 2 Peter 1:4

Truth #4: In Union – you are “in Christ” because Jesus joins as one with you in your spirit. John 14:20; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Colossians 1:27

Truth #5: By Faith – you are righteous on the inside but your body is still dead to sin. Follow by faith the inner life of Christ so that you can live a righteous life. Romans 8:10; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:3b

The “5 Keys” to Understanding the New Testament

Key #1: Teaching of the Holy Spirit - only the Holy Spirit can make the Bible come alive since your human mind is incapable of understanding God’s spiritual truths. 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Key #2: Proper Context - the New Testament must be understood in its proper Jewish context. Otherwise, the message gets misinterpreted and is dramatically changed. Romans 9:4; John 4:22b

Key #3: Spiritual Beings - all people have an inner spirit and an outer mortal body. Christians have a “born again” spirit that is righteous, but they still live in their not-yet-redeemed mortal bodies. 2 Corinthians 4:16, 5:1-6; Ephesians 4:24

Key #4: Jesus Emptied Himself - Jesus lived by the power of the Holy Spirit that He received at His baptism. Jesus lived by faith and not by His own power. Therefore, He is your model for a life of faith. John 14:10b; Matthew 12:28; Matthew 12:18

Key #5: Hebrew Law - God gave the Law only to the Jews; the Gentiles have never been under the Law. Romans 2:14; Hebrews 7:18, 28; Hebrews 8:13

1 Thessalonians. 4:11a and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and **attend to your own business** ...



Galatians 6:10 So then, while we have opportunity, **let us do good to all men**, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.



1 Peter 3:8b-9a ... **let all be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; [9] not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult**, but giving a blessing instead; ...

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True Tracts

Are You Fighting the Culture Wars?

You may be surprised by what the Bible has to say about involvement in social and political action.



Matthew 5:16 **Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works**, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.



Colossians 4:5-6 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. [6] **Let your speech always be with grace**, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person.

What are the Culture Wars?

In 1991 a sociologist coined the phrase, “culture wars.” It refers to an increasing number of issues, things like abortion, homosexual rights, pornography, evolution vs. creationism and others that are polarizing American society.

Two warring groups have emerged, defined primarily by their “world views.”

The phrase, “Christian world view” has become common among conservative Christians today.

Organizations, radio and television programs and even an entire national radio network have been founded in order resist and oppose “unbiblical” world views.

So what is the energy behind this movement?

Certainly the participants are passionate in their beliefs, and they are convinced that this is God’s will to confront the advancing evil in this generation. Some even feel that Christians who do not participate are shirking their duty as followers of Jesus Christ.

What does the Bible say about fighting the culture wars? Is it God’s will for your life? Are you obligated as a Christian to take up the fight against the forces that oppose Biblical principles? The Bible is very specific about what you should do.

Should I Fight the Culture Wars?

Unbelievers act like sinners because they *are* sinners. They cannot live righteously because they do not have the righteous life of Christ in them. You were once like them.

Titus 3:2-3 **to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.** [3] **For we also once were foolish ourselves**, disobedient, deceived, **enslaved to various lusts and pleasures**, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

The Bible clearly forbids judging unbelievers. It is *only* among the Body of believers that Christians should judge.

1 Corinthians 5:9-10,12-13a I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; [10] **I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world** ... for then you would have to go out of the world ... [12] **For what have I to do with judging outsiders?** Do you not judge those who are within the church? [13] But **those who are outside, God judges.**

Culture wars are so much a part of Christian life that it seems impossible that it is not from God. Yet, Scripture is clear that you *should not* get involved.

2 Timothy 2:4a **No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life,**

By Grace, Not War

In the last days, evil *will* increase; this is one of the signs Christ’s return (Matthew 24:12).

Trying to place people under God’s Law **causes them to sin more, not less!** (See Romans 7:7-10)

1 Corinthians 15:56b ... and **the power of sin is the law;**

Jesus Christ replaced the Law as the way a person becomes righteousness; He did this 2,000 years ago (Romans 10:4). The Bible says that Christians are to offer, with much respect, the free gift of salvation unto eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 3:15 always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet **with gentleness and reverence;**

Christians today are much maligned because of those who participate in the culture wars. They push unbelievers away from being able to embrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Unbelievers are God’s creation just like every Christian.

1 John 3:10b ... anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, **nor the one who does not love his brother.**

Not only is there **no** mandate in Scripture to fight the culture wars, neither Jesus nor the Apostles ever spoke out against the unbelievers of their day – rather, they offered them eternal life.