



## HIGHEST PRAISE APOSTOLIC CHURCH FALL CURRICULUM

# SERIES: WHAT IS TRUTH?

### RELATIVISM VS. THE WORD OF GOD

#### SERIES INTRODUCTION

#### **SERIES SCRIPTURE PASSAGE:**

**John 18:33-38 (ESV)** – “So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” 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.” 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.**” Pilate said to him, “**What is truth?**” After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him.”

#### **“MY KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD.”**

Today, in this very moment, the Church finds itself in the age-old battle against the kingdom of darkness, in this world. From the moment of the fall of man, to this present day, the kingdom of darkness has waged war against the Kingdom of God – Satan has waged war against Jesus Christ.

Although we are born into this world and we must live our lives as sinful men and women in need of redemption, we understand that we do not belong to this world. We serve the **King of kings** and the **Lord of lords** – that is Jesus Christ – and His Kingdom is **not of this world**. This means that as sons and daughters of Christ, we are called to be set apart from this world and all that the world stands for.

## “EVERYONE WHO IS OF THE TRUTH LISTENS TO MY VOICE.”

In the main scripture passage for this series, **John 18:33-38** we find a very interesting conversation between Pontius Pilate and Jesus Christ, right before Jesus’s crucifixion. Pilate is tasked with examining Jesus Christ’s testimony to determine if there is fault in Him.

Pilate asks Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus’s response is almost humorous. He tells Pilate “*You say that I am a king...*” but then He makes a very clear statement about ***His purpose***.

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.*”

What was Jesus saying? Regardless of who recognizes Him as King, Jesus Christ came to earth for one purpose: **to bear witness to the truth**. Then He says, “***Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.***”

As followers of Christ, we must emphatically listen to and believe the Word of God! Jesus Christ came to give witness to the truth! All those who claim to believe truth, must deny the call from the world, and must heed the voice of God!

## “WHAT IS TRUTH?”

Pilate’s cynical question showed he thought Jesus’ claim to be a King of Truth was foolish. Probably, Pilate did not mean that there was no truth, but that there was no truth in the kind of spiritual kingdom Jesus represented. For Pilate, soldiers and armies were truth, Rome was truth, Caesar was truth, and political power was truth.

Many in our day ask Pilate’s question, but from a different perspective. Noting that many things are true only on the basis of personal preference or perspective, they think all truth is personal and individual. They think there is no true truth about God; there is only ***my truth*** and ***your truth*** and one is as good as the other. Though this thinking is strong in our day, it denies the One who said: “For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth.”

## SERIES FOCUS

This series focuses on examining relevant, significant topics that the modern-day church, and believer, faces almost daily. In our geopolitical climate, there are many questions that the world is asking. Not everyone who asks these questions asks with the motive of facilitating learning and understanding. Instead, many influential voices in this world, are challenging the tenets of the Gospel and are trying to cause confusion around these issues. The purpose of this series is to bring clarity to the believer by examining these questions with a biblical lens and bringing the truth of God’s Word into the light.