
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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What Is True?

What is true? Matt, Amanda, Julie, and Zach are laying on a train track. **True.** The train bearing down on them (not pictured) that they later photoshopped into the picture which endangered them. **False.**

What is true? $2 + 2 = 4$. Think about it. Jesus structures His creation to have order. $2 + 2 = 4$. **True.**

BUT WAIT! What if the first “2” in the equation—what if the first “2” in $2 + 2$ —chooses to identify as an 11? Doesn't it have the right to identify as whatever number it wants, rather than whatever it is? So, if the first “2” identifies as, say, an “11,” then this particular $2 + 2$ (identifying as an 11) = 13.

Or what if the second “2” has a grudge against the first “2”? What if the second “2” VIOLENTLY PROTESTS having to be joined together with the first “2”? And so this “2” protests and simply walks away, leaving an empty “0” in its place. So this particular $2 + 2$ (protesting and then leaving empty) = 2.

And surely you can see the most obvious problem with $2 + 2$ equaling 4. You see it, don't you? That horrific addition sign—that plus sign—well, it's shaped like a cross. DON'T SHOVE YOUR RELIGION ON ME! Get rid of that cross! Replace it with a minus sign because I'm into CANCEL CULTURE. So, this $2 +$ (the addition sign now a subtraction sign) $2 = 0$. In the middle of our culture's identity crises, protests, cancel zealots, and claims that anyone's subjective truth is truth, who decides what is true? The loudest person? Then the Baal prophets, who yell and shout all through the day, must speak truth—instead of Elijah, who simply speaks God's Word without carrying on. Who decides what is true? The majority? Then Demetrius' condemnation of Paul is justified when he complains that Paul is saying man-made gods are no gods at all—when Demetrius riles up the crowd to shout in unison for two hours, “Great is Artemis (Greek god) of the Ephesians!”



Thank God! He reveals and declares what is true. John writes, “Grace and TRUTH came through Jesus Christ” (John 1:17). Jesus promises, “I am the...TRUTH...” (John 14). John later writes, “I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the TRUTH” (2 John 4). And Paul, applauding the Berean Christians, reports, “They examined the Scriptures each day to see if what Paul said was TRUE” (Acts 17:11).

God’s apostle says to you, “First of all, whatever is TRUE, think about such things, and the God of peace will be with you” (Philippians 4). The word Paul translates as TRUE means factual and correct. It means reality that is firm and therefore solid, valid, and binding. It means genuine and reliable. A planed board is true when it’s straight and smooth. A rifle sighting is true when it’s accurate. A friend is true when he or she is dependable, trustworthy, and devoted.

Paul understands that your thinking influences your life. Whatever you allow to occupy your mind will sooner or later determine what you say and what you do. How many brainwaves do you spend on fiction and fairy tales, and deceptive podcasts with lies or subjective opinions presented as truth? Instead, think about $2 + 2 = 4$ and how God marvelously orders His creation. Think about Jesus (who is Truth) and His words and works, like His true birth and teachings and miracles and death and new life and scheduled return—all for you. Listen again to the apostle’s promise: “First of all, whatever is TRUE, think about such things, and the God of peace will be with you.”

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