

Three Absolute Truths

“What is Truth?” Pontius Pilate demanded of Jesus Christ. Who knows how the course of history may have evolved, had Pilate learned then of God’s purpose with the earth and with man. The pivotal role that Jesus would play to further God’s purpose, his crucifixion and resurrection, was imminent. The merciless Roman governor would not learn the three great truths of Bible narrative: God’s absolute sovereignty, His purpose with the earth, and His purpose with mankind.

Absolute Sovereignty

The first truth, God’s sovereignty, is difficult to grasp. Many people try to make God conform to what they perceive Him to be, attributing their own standards of fairness. But God does not conform to any personal image we may hold. On the contrary, God says through Paul:

But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, “Why have you made me like this?” (Romans 9:20).

This is God, Creator of light and darkness. Speaking through the prophet Isaiah, God describes the huge differences of thought and action between humankind and Himself:

“My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:8–9).



Purpose with the Earth

God’s purpose with the earth is detailed in the Bible narrative from Genesis to Revelation. He created the earth to last for ever, never to be destroyed by fire, flood, or nuclear bomb. After the Flood, every living being was destroyed, except for Noah and those on the ark. The earth did remain, however, with the promise of God by the rainbow sign that He would never again destroy all flesh.

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease (Genesis 8:22).

In Numbers 14:21, God declared that all the earth would be filled with the glory of the Lord. God created the earth, He established it; He did not create it in vain but formed it to be inhabited (Isaiah 45:18).

From a human point of view, earth’s life is finite, and the world can end with a whimper or become a burned out cinder in space. But God has promised something better.

Mankind cannot solve the world’s problems. It is God who will rescue His creation. He has promised to make

everything new in a kingdom where there is peace in human society and in the natural world, and the earth is full of the knowledge of God (see Isaiah 11:1–9). With the dawning of the Kingdom age, we read that weapons will be converted to farming tools, and war will cease for ever. A few lines describe this new world order:

For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create... The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, nor the voice of crying... And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands... For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD... before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear... They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain (Isaiah 65:17–25).

Purpose with Mankind

The third truth, God's purpose with men and women, shares good news with bad. The Good News, preached by Christ and his disciples, was of the establishment of the Kingdom of God on the earth. Christ's parables declare the essence of the kingdom where its citizens manifest attributes like faith, joy, love, forgiveness and mercy.

The bad news for some is that this kingdom will not be open to everyone, but limited to those who accept God's offer and have faith in Him. These citizens will be those who display the characteristics Jesus described as hungering and thirsting for righteousness; being merciful, meek, pure in heart, peacemakers, and having endured persecution for their faith's sake (Matthew 5:3–12).

It is these followers of Christ who have tried their best (and he does not ask for more!) who will be made perfect and immortal in the Kingdom of God.



What should we do then? Live just for the moment? Just hope for the best and that everything will be all right?

More than forty generations after that fateful scene between Jesus and Pilate before the Praetorium, we witness today the sad outcome of a world with humans in charge.

God's word will prevail, however, and soon Christ will return to set up the promised Kingdom of God. No one knows when this will happen, but signs are evident, most visibly in the establishment of the Jewish state and the breakdown of morals in our society.

Let's listen to God's truth preached by Christ and his disciples as we find it in our Bibles. Then let's respond with faith, baptism and trying our best to follow Jesus. For he said:

Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom (Luke 12:32).

Leroy Canoles Jr.

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