

# SCRIPTURE TRACK

## Week 8 Notes:

Christian Apologetics – A branch of Christian Theology that defends Christianity against objections.

Purpose – Finding truth

Is what is true for you, true for me?

- Jesus is the divine Son of God, or he is not
- Jesus was crucified to death and resurrected, or he was not.
- The Bible is either the “God-breathed” word, or it is not.

Relativism - “What’s true for you might be different than what’s true for me”

This class will look at facts, and draw conclusions

- Evaluate like a jury

Why is this important?

- The younger generation is leaving the church in alarming numbers
- The majority of people who leave the church can’t articulate their faith
- Many schools universities are openly hostile to Christian beliefs

Why is this important?

- The Bible is taught as anti-science
  - Evolution is taught as scientific fact
- 58% of American’s don’t believe in “absolute truth”
- 60-70% of adults between 15-30 walk away from church
  - 1/3 of those will return

Reality vs. Perspective

- True or False - “Everyone’s reality is different”
- We all have different perspectives, not different realities

We must be grounded in truth

- John 4:24 – worship God in Spirit and Truth
- John 8:31-32 – “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”
- I John 3:18 – “Let us not love in word or in talk but in deed and in truth”
- Eph 6:14 – Belt of Truth

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\*Satan is a master of terminology

Truth – now means “perspective”

Inspired – Originally meant “God-breathed”.

- Keep adding clarifying words such as inerrant and infallible to get back to original meaning

Tolerance – absence of dissenting views

Science – Expanded beyond Experimental and Observational

How do we discuss absolute truth?

- 1) Find a common reference - look for common ground
- 2) Check the assumptions -
  - Often atheistic explanations throw out a supernatural explanation automatically
- 3) Look at the evidence – favorable and unfavorable

How do we find truth about Jesus?

- Look at the evidence
- Eyewitness accounts
- Historical records written by
  - Favorable – (ex. Gospels)
  - Neutral – (ex. Historians like Josephus)
  - Un-favorable – Opponents of Jesus