

Foundational truths.

Nutshell truths and their corresponding verses for yourself, your family, your friends.



oday is a good day to bring you the foundations of faith. Here is what God says in His Word about the most basic of truths. These are foundational truths, not only concerning Paul's evangel, but concerning great themes such as God, the eons, the salvation of all, the person of Christ, the Scriptures, the meaning of death and the sovereignty of God.

GOD

There is no other God except One . . . God, the Father, out of Whom all is . . . and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through Whom all is . . . (Galatians 3:20; 1 Corinthians 8:4-6).

All is out of Him, through and for Him (Romans 11:36).

God creates evil (Isaiah 45:7), but never sins.

God gives the experience of evil to humanity to humble them (Ecclesiastes 1:13).

THE PERSON OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ is "the firstborn of every creature" (Colossians 1:15).

Jesus Christ is "the Son of God" (Galatians 2:20).

Jesus Christ "died for our sins, was entombed, and roused the third day" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

Jesus Christ is the Mediator of God and humanity, the One giving Himself a correspondent Ransom for all (1 Timothy 2:5-6).

THE SCRIPTURES

All Scripture is inspired by God, and is beneficial for teaching, exposure, correction (2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13).

A pattern of sound words must be preserved as given in the original Scriptures (2 Timothy 1:13).

The Word of truth must be correctly cut (2 Timothy 2:15).

Each part of the Word must be applied to those to whom it was written: Jesus Christ's earthly ministry (Romans 15:8) and the twelve apostles to the Circumcision, and Paul to the nations (Ephesians 3:8; 1 Timothy 2:7).

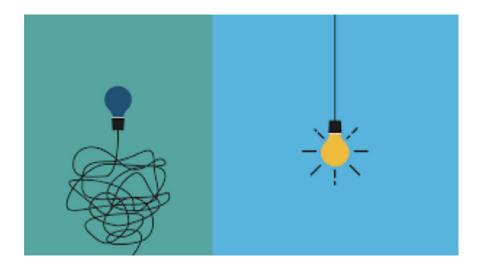
All Scripture is for us, but it is not all about us or to us.

THE EONS

Jesus Christ created the eons (Hebrews 1:2).

God's purpose is not eternal, but rather related to time periods called eons (Ephesians 2:2).

The eons have consummations (1 Corinthians 10:11) and a conclusion (Hebrews 9:26).



God is the Savior of all humanity at the consummation, but especially of believers during the eons (1 Timothy 2:4; 4:10)

THE SALVATION OF ALL

God is the Savior of all humanity (1 Timothy 4:10). God will reconcile all creation through the cross of Christ (Colossians 1:20).

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

All is out of God (Romans 11:36).

"God gives to all life and breath and all" (Acts 17:25).

THE MEANING OF DEATH

The dead do not live (Revelation 20:5).

The dead do not know anything (Ecclesiastes 9:5).

PAUL'S EVANGEL

Paul's evangel to the nations is different from Peter's to Israel (Galatians 2:7).

Believers in Paul's evangel are justified, not forgiven (Romans 3:24).

Paul's gospel is of faith, not works of law (Romans 3:28).

Believers in Paul's gospel are to be seated among the celestials, not upon the earth (Philippians 3:20; Colossians 1:5; Ephesians 2:6).

THE SIMPLE TRUTH

These things are not really technical. They're simple. And yet not even theologians with multiple religious degrees understand them. A lot of people say, "Oh, the truths that Martin Zender teach are so complicated." No, they're not. They're simple. What's complicated is when someone tries to make these truths mesh with institutional Christian error. When people try to find some kind of correspondence between truth and the axioms of the Christian religion—that is where the complications arise, because there is no fellowship between light and darkness. You may as well try to turn Christ into Satan or Satan into Christ as to try and homogenize the truth with institutional error.

RIDING THE RAIL

It seems so unloving to hold a message so specific and so black-and-white that it drives people—all people—off the proverbial fence. Have you ever heard the saying, "Truth is truth"? This saying is true. In the fence analogy, truth is the very narrow rail on top of the fence. Unless one is an Olympic balance beam competitor, anyone hearing truth—stark truth, hard truth as it is meant to be preached—will fall one way or the other off the fence rail. So when the majority of people fall onto the side of the lie, there tends to be such sorrow felt by those on the truth side that they slip into "survivor's guilt" mode, and seek to rescue the "poor people" opposite them who are not really poor at all, they just hate truth.

Survivor's guilt goes something like: Maybe it is my fault that the fence rail is so thin. Maybe it is my fault that the poor people fell to the other side. Maybe I am the one responsible for rescuing them from the lies. Maybe I should save them, irrespective of personal cost. The next thought is unconscious, but is the most deceptive and damaging thought of all: Maybe I should not even concern myself with holding hard and fast to the truth, but should expand the gates of the gospel by whatever means for the sake of these poor, lost souls.

What would Jesus do? Jesus would tell the people who hate the truth, "See you at the Consummation," and fellowship with the believers until the rest of those sheep are scheduled to enter— "For there is one God, and one Mediator of God and mankind, a Man, Christ Jesus, Who is giving Himself a correspondent Ransom for all, the testimony in its own eras" (1 Timothy 2:6).

-MZ

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