I Share Scripture's Sense of Urgency for Truth

"I have come into the world to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." (John 18:37b)

As the Prophet Isaiah (59:14) decried: some 2,600 years ago, our society today is witnessing an accelerating disintegration of truth both as a concept, and as an essential standard that everyone is morally compelled to keep. Our nation neither began, nor can it be expected to further itself, by denying the obligation to obey truth under its classical definition. This view, the "Correspondence Theory of Truth," defines that term simply, as "whatever corresponds to reality." A technical description of the word states that, "a belief is true if there exists an appropriate entity – a fact – to which it corresponds. If there is no such entity, the belief is false." Although the renowned philosopher Aristotle is rightly credited with clarifying and categorizing the rules of logic, he did not invent them. Even though the Bible doesn't mimic his analytic treatment of logic, it never once defies or even denies the principles of logic. Indeed this posture should be universally expected since logic, by definition, pertains to reality as opposed to fantasy. The point then is that societies cannot possibly function effectively in defiance of logic. Nevertheless, overthrowing truth (as a guiding and binding principle) is the unfolding goal of the people who are currently usurping governmental authority away from the general population.

The most glaring examples of **Leftist repudiation of empirical**⁷ **truth** in society today include, (1) in utter contradiction to scientific methodology, social and news media outlets⁸ have taken it upon themselves to censor every position which intellectually challenges Leftist views,⁹ (2) along similar lines Democrat Party spokespersons refuse to face and engage with conservative challengers on the public stage,¹⁰ (3) the certitude of Leftist denial that human sexuality is binary,¹¹ (4) Leftist rejection of the *autonomy* of the *human* fetus inside its mother's womb,¹² (5) Leftist insistence that the oceans began rising both at the time of, and because of, the *industrial revolution*,¹³ (6) their denial of causal connections between the destructive riots of the Summer of 2020, and Democrat Party leadership,¹⁴ (7) their insistence that Donald Trump instigated the "riot" at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021,¹⁵ (8) and their insistence that the recent Presidential election followed due diligence.¹⁶ For the sake of full disclosure, in regard to the final three points I have been urged to not rekindle such sore wounds which are based on a personality despised by so many, including certain self-described Christians. However, the chronic disconnect between provable *facts* on the one hand, and prejudicial¹⁷ subjective *feelings* on the other, commits the *ad hominem* fallacy¹⁸. In addition it should be stressed that the footnotes which reference **all eight of these points** unfailingly establish that they are either demonstrably illegitimate, or false.

¹ "Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth is fallen in the public squares" (boldface mine). Notice here firstly that the common slogan, No Truth: No Justice (together with its premise) was anticipated 2,600 years ago by the prophet Isaiah.

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ See the opening paragraph of Elton Trueblood's book, The Company of the Committed.

³ "Theories of Truth for Atheists and Agnostics." https://www.learnreligions.com/correspondence-theory-of-truth-250538

⁴ https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/truth/ (08/16/2018), 1.1.2

⁵ Renford Bambrough, ed. <u>The Philosophy of Aristotle</u>. "Posterior Analytics." (Mentor, 1963).

⁶ Whatever Asian societies may believe in the abstract, they obey the laws of rationality in practice by driving on the right side of the road.

⁷ This paper highlights the distinction between empirical facts (which are testable against measurable phenomena) and connective rational arguments that are scrutinized by the principles of logic. Flawed arguments often begin with a faulty factual premise.

 $^{^8}$ These include "Alphabet News Outlets together with Amazon, Facebook, Google, Twitter, and even You Tube, etc.

⁹ See my blogsite postings, The Broad Array of Cowardly Plays the Left Employs," (12/25/2020), and ** "The One Advantage Leftist's Cannot Possibly Possess," (03/16/2021) at www.offensivechristianity.blogspot.com

¹⁰ See "What's Glaringly Missing from Leftist Pronouncements" at my website, www.christianityontheoffense.com

¹¹ See my paper, "Transgenderism Public Policy that I Decry as Imbecility," Ibid. ** Just tonight Devan Cole of CNN was quoted as saying, "It's not possible to know a person's gender identity at birth, and there is no consensus criteria [for assigning such]." Fox News. 3/31/2021, 8:45pm.

¹² See my paper, "Leftism's Claims to be Champions of Science is a Gigantic Fraud," at Op.cit. (10).

¹³ See my paper, "Glaring Historical Geological Facts Climate Change Militants Chronically Suppress," at Op.cit. (10).

¹⁴ See my paper, "Would You Discard Imperfect Founders of Liberty in Favor of Clueless Fascist Thugs?" at Op.cit. (10).

¹⁵ See my blogsite posting, "Only One Possible Way to Establish Truth," (01/09/2021). Op.cit. (9).

¹⁶ Op.cit. (14).

¹⁷ The term "prejudicial" means to make a judgment in the absence (often willful) of relevant evidence to the contrary.

¹⁸ This term means an argument against the perceived character of a person as opposed to his/her conduct that is relevant to the question.

Although I am a committed Christian, please notice that I am not imposing *Christian* values onto Leftists; but employing the very standards that they both champion themselves, and demand of their opponents. Even though one of Joe Biden's best-known slogans is, "Follow the science, man!" his administration contradicts that aim by not merely ignoring the intellectually-required investigation, but also censoring all qualified opponents.¹⁹ Further, they even demand assent from the average citizen that every Leftist lie is true (Isaiah ch. 5), often under threat of severe penalty. For example in public schools, teachers, staff, and students are all obligated to address transgender claimants according to the gender reference of the latter's choice. One official document indeed states that "Schools can't force a transgender student to use facilities that don't match their gender identity," Yet by so saying, they are forcing every other student to face that very experiences that they decry for themselves. Further, they employ brainwashing by forcing students to affirm as true what they know to be false. How ironic it is then that secularists are offended by voluntary religious teaching even if it cannot be proven to be false while they insist on forcing secularist teaching which can be proven to violate scientific facts.

The denial of truth is not a "victimless crime." Both Christianity and every other belief system have the very same stake with respect to whether or not truth is honored. In every case, in the absence of truth, it is impossible to *persuade* others of their credibility of any position. Indeed there is no other measuring stick of any kind that can effectively discern what is valid in any possible context. The whole-sale suppression or distortion of truth can only then benefit the tyrants who impose their agendas; but never the "masses" who are instead forced to endure the messes brought about by the former.

What then about the Judeo-Christian belief system? It is on the one hand popularly held that religious faith is the antithesis (opposite) of credible scientific discoveries that can be measured. Yet that prejudicial view is easily rebutted.²¹ The reality that the Bible embraces the concept of truth according to the classical definition can be established by five prongs. Firstly, Scripture employs the terms "truth," "deceit," "truly," "truly," "false" and its cognates, "testimony," and "witness" just short of a thousand times (984X), fairly evenly across both Testaments.²² Apart from miracle claims and disputes over literal/figurative interpretations, no defiance of logic is to be found. Secondly, the character of God is univocally described as both the very embodiment of rational truth, and the instiller of rationality²³ and consequently, truth.²⁴ Thirdly, Romans 1:18-21 declares it wickedness to suppress the witness of nature (in this case, specifically as it indicates to the existence of a Creator—Psalm 19:1). Indeed, the Bible, as a matter of principle, takes our obedience to factual truth and rational thinking very seriously. Fourthly, Jesus equally calls us to draw conclusions from the facts of both history and nature (Matthew 11:2-6, John 3:12 and John 14:11). Fifthly, the Bible in actual practice appeals to the fact of coherence between biblical pronouncements and the phenomena that they describe.²⁵

The Bible discourages irrational mysticism by warning that unbelief instead leads to chaos (Rom. 1:18f).

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¹⁹ See my blog posting, "Mark Zuckerberg has Neither Competence, Nor Standing, to Censor Anything," (01/18/2021) at Op.cit (9).

²⁰ https://www.transequality.org/sites/default/files/ED-DCL-Fact-Sheet.pdf

²¹ Philosopher of Science professor, Dr. John C. Lennox argues that there are aspects of absolutely vital knowledge that scientists cannot possibly answer concerning existence itself, mathematical correspondence to physical laws, purpose, morality, etc. He further employs his "Aunt Matilda's Cake" analogy which argues that the fact that she loves baking equally accounts for the presence of a cake on the table as does a good recipe. See <u>God's Undertaker</u>. (Lion, 2009), pp.207,8. ** See also my paper, "Scientism is Not Science," at Op.cit. (10).

²² James Strong. The New Strong's Expanded Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible. (Thomas Nelson, 2001). Main concordance, p. 1.

²³ William Shedd writes, "When God creates a rational being, he makes him after his own image... All finite reason must resemble the infinite reason in kind. When God creates a rational spirit, he must, from the nature of the case, make it after his own likeness and **after no other pattern** [in nature.]" Alan Gomez, ed. <u>Dogmatic Theology</u>. 3rd ed. (P&R Publishing, 2003), pp. 61.

²⁴ Shedd quotes Leibnitz, "The laws of motion... are a wonderful proof of the existence of an intelligent and free being." Ibid, p. 59.

 $^{^{25}}$ See my paper, "The Pervasive Employment of Apologetics in the Bible" at Op.cit. (10).