

The Harvester



Preparing Souls

To Serve The Lord



Volume 34

December 2013

Number 5

“Do You Understand Truth?”

A Preview of the 2014 Lectureship Book

By Brian R. Kenyon

Today's popular culture would have us to believe that there is no such thing as objective truth. Whether in politics, the news media, public education, and especially religion, a person having the audacity to even claim that there is such a thing as truth is met with ridicule and disgust! The school's 39th annual lectureship will better prepare God's people to meet the challenges we face in understanding truth. As can be seen from the schedule inside, the lectureship will deal with many, practical aspects of truth. The excerpts below especially concern the philosophical challenges to truth and their implications to our society. First, Rick Kenyon states,

Truth contains properties that bear relevance to philosophical challenges. First, truth is one sided—it is consistent with itself...Second, truth cannot be created nor destroyed, only recognized. It is “metaphysical matter” which is intricately connected with God and his nature... Third, truth is timeless. It is nonsensical to ask, “When did truth begin?” It has always been in existence because God has always

been in existence; truth is a part of God's nature (Deut. 32:4; Ps. 31:5)...Fourth, truth is immutable—it does not change. A particular belief may be accepted as truth when it is actually false. The realization of a currently held false belief does not change the truth, only what one perceives as truth (e.g., belief that the earth was flat). Perceived truth is not the same as actual truth.

Daniel Stearsman brings many good points about postmodernism, among which concerns an attitude common to many truth deniers.

One approach that seems pervasive in postmodernism is presenting dilemmas that really are not dilemmas at all. For example, in the area of knowledge, one is either ignorant and humble, or arrogant and certain...What about the possibility, though, of being ignorant and arrogant or certain and humble? Are these not viable options? The Bible teaches that people can be both humble and certain (cf. Lk. 1:4; Heb. 6:19; Phil. 2:3). To have humility does not necessarily exclude knowing with certainty.

Mark McWhorter's chapter comes in a section dealing with the role of truth (or lack thereof) in societal practices. His chapter, “Truth and ‘Same Sex Marriage,’” is partially written in light of the Supreme Court decision on June 26, 2013.

If someone thinks the slippery slope [from allowing homosexuals to marry] to legalized pedophilia presented is bogus, consider the 2011 symposium held in Baltimore... pedophilia was redefined as “minor attracted persons,” and

3rd Annual Appreciation Dinner




We are privileged once again to have **Tom Holland** do some more rocking from the “pastime porch” on **Tuesday, January 21, 2014**. Contact the office today to RSVP. We are asking that attendees make a \$10 donation to the school. Hope to see you here!

Spring 2014 Class Schedule on Page 2

the symposium sought to raise concerns about how the DSM1 [Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders published by the American Psychiatric Association] considers it a mental disorder. One of the lectures was titled "Decriminalizing Mental Disorder Concepts—Pedophilia as an Example."

Atheism is a prime example of society giving "credibility" where there is none according to truth. Eric Lyons concludes his article.

When atheism is stripped of pompous proclamations and arrogant allegations, its naked soul is seen for what it really is: weak, illogical, unscientific, and worthless. ... While trying to convince others it is galloping confidently atop a stallion called Common Sense, atheism stumbles on the back of a donkey called Foolishness. Is there any wonder why David said, "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Ps. 14:1)?

This brief sampling gives a taste of our 2014 lecture-ship book. Pre-order your copy today! 

Spring 2014 Semester Begins Jan. 6

Register on-line, by calling the office, or by selecting classes from this form and mailing it to the office with your name, address, and phone number!

Register Today! Full or Part-Time! For Credit or Audit!

Day	Time	Lakeland Classes	Instructor	Credit
Monday	__ 8:30-12:00	Life of Christ (117)	Davis	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Marriage and the Family (254)	Richardson	3
Tuesday	__ 8:30-12:00	Denominational Dogmas (131)	Franson	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Cults (252)	Bauer	3
Wednesday	__ 8:30-12:00	English II: Composition (125)	Kenyon	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Book of Acts (118)	D. Stearsman	3
Thursday	__ 8:30-12:00	Holy Spirit (250)	Kenyon	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Missions I (255)	Wheeler	3
Friday	__ 8:30-12:00	Psalms (268)	Wheeler	3
	__ 1:00-4:15	Isaiah and Jeremiah (113)	Elledge	3

Extension Classes				
Thursday	__ 6:00-8:30	Romans (261) (Orange Street church of Christ, Auburndale)	Bauer	2.5
	__ 7:00-9:30	Jeremiah (TBA) (Wesconnett church of Christ, Jacksonville)	Atnip	2.5

The Harvester

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Memorials: B. C. Carr (M/M James R. Brooks, Sybil Carr); Milo Meeks (Anonymous); George Peterson (Dorothy Peterson); Willie Sykes (Dotty Gutzler).

Special Gifts: Teresa Thomas Estate.

*Our final deposit for the month is usually made on the last Wednesday of the month. All contributions received after that time are reported on the next month's financial statement.



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Florida School of Preaching

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"Do You Understand Truth?"

39th Annual Lectureship **Jan. 20-23, 2014** Brian R. Kenyon, Director

MONDAY

9:00 What Is Truth and Can We Know It? Jackie M. Stearsman
 9:40 Suppressing the Truth (Rom. 1:18-20) Charles Broyles
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 Is Atheism Credible? Eric Lyons

11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Challenges to Truth

1:30 Postmodernism Daniel Stearsman
 2:00 Other Philosophical Challenges Rick Kenyon
 2:30 Modern Media Cloyd "Ben" Frock, Jr.
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic

4:30 DINNER

6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Eve: Tricked About Truth Mike Elledge
 7:45 Jesus' View of Truth Tom Holland

TUESDAY

9:00 "Thy Word Is Truth" George F. Beals
 9:40 True Religious Authority Michael Shepherd
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 Denominational Baptism and Truth Cameron Freeman

11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Truth and Religion

1:30 Roman Catholicism's View of Truth Earl Edwards
 2:00 Islam's View of Truth Trent Wheeler
 2:30 Mormonism's View of Truth Nathan Franson
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic

4:30 DINNER

6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 The Young Prophet: Believing a Lie Vernon Sirmons
 7:45 Jesus: Bearing Witness to the Truth Jimmy Clark

WEDNESDAY

9:00 Mercy and Truth J. Brooks Boyd, Jr.
 9:40 Righteousness and Truth Sam Willcut
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 Worship in Spirit and Truth Jimmy Clark

11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Truth and Worship

1:30 Truth Concerning Music in Worship Stan Mitchell
 2:00 Truth Concerning the Lord's Supper Alfred Woodard
 2:30 Truth Concerning "Tongue Speaking" Brian R. Kenyon
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic

4:30 DINNER

6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Micahiah: Some Do Not Want Truth Brian Howard
 7:45 Jesus: Grace and Truth Cameron Freeman

THURSDAY

9:00 Truth and the Consequences of Sin David Stearsman
 9:40 Truth and "Same Sex Marriage" Mark McWhorter
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error Melvin Otey

11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Truth and Preaching

1:30 Preaching the Truth in Love Bruce Daugherty
 2:00 They "Went Out from Us" Jackie M. Stearsman
 2:30 Persecution and Preaching the Truth Rico Brown
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic

4:30 DINNER

6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Ananias and Sapphira: Lying to God Christian Torres
 7:45 Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life Melvin Otey

Broadcast Live at www.fsop.net

Obtain a copy of our 2014 book:

Do You Understand Truth? . . . \$16

A new CD will also be available containing all our previous books (1994-2014) and other material from FSOP sources!



Previous Lectureship Books:

- Do You Understand Biblical Morality? ('13)
 - Do You Understand the Local Church? ('12)
 - Do You Understand the Biblical Value of Women? ('11)
 - Do You Understand Expediency? ('10)
- Each Is Just \$16.00** postage included!

Lectureship Specials: set of 18 available books \$100 or buy 3 books and get 1 free!



Nathan Franson



Cameron Freeman



Ben Frock



Tom Holland



Brian Howard



Brian Kenyon



Rick Kenyon

We live in a culture where it seems that all truth is relative. That is, there is no such thing as objective truth, Biblical or otherwise! Is this true? Come, join us for this important study!

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The Harvester

December 2013

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REMEMBERING THE SCHOOL IN YOUR BUDGET

The new year is quickly approaching! Thus, many local churches and households, if they have not done so already, are beginning to make their budgets for 2014. As leadership in local churches and/or individual Christians give thought as to how their anticipated income, Lord willing, will be distributed, we ask for your consideration in helping us to train preachers and to better prepare souls to serve the Lord. Yes, the Florida School of Preaching needs funds to operate, as any successful institution does, and students who set aside two years of their lives to receive intensive training in the Bible are certainly deserving of support while they prepare for the greatest occupation on earth (cf. 1 Cor. 9:7-14), but the greatest thing that needs sustaining is the value the school continues to be for the cause of Christ. Since 1969 the school has trained preachers and better prepared souls to serve the Lord. Our graduates are located around the globe, taking the Gospel to the lost, establishing congregations of the Lord's church, and building up local bodies of Christ. Furthermore, our class notes, electronic study materials, and lectureships continue to be of great value in maturing Christians, defending the faith, and helping brethren sort through controversies to see truly what "Thus saith the Lord." We appreciate all our supporters, and we invite others to fellowship with us in training men to preach the Gospel of Christ. We need your help!

Make Plans Now To Attend Our 39th Annual Lectureship

Do You Understand Truth?

Monday through Thursday, January 20-23, 2014