

Veritology: what is Truth?

Lesson #1 Outline

- **Introduction – A Worldview Tour**
 - Comprehensive – The worldview compass directs us to God's design in all areas of life
 - Systematic – Temple structure explains the foundations and framework of course topics
 - Purpose of tour – To gaze upon the face of God
- **Why was Jesus Born? Why did He come into the World?**
 - To testify to the Truth – John 18:37
 - Scriptural emphasis on Truth – Sanctification and salvation connection to Truth
 - Man's sinful nature will suppress, distort, reject, and exchange God's truth for lies
- **The Cosmic Battle – Spirit of Truth vs. Spirit of Falsehood – Reality vs. Illusion**
 - Scene in heaven between God and Satan - Job 1 & 2 - "Did God really say?"
 - Link between salvation and truth - 2 Thessalonians 2 - "...God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the spirit and the belief in the truth."
 - Two Fathers – John 8:44 – "You belong to your father, the devil"
 - Connection between sin, lies and deceit – Every sin that besets us can be traced to a belief in a lie – Our sins take us captive to the lies of the world
 - Dealing with outsiders - 2 Timothy 2 and Colossians 4:5-6 – They have been taken captive and we must "gently instruct them" and let our "speech be seasoned with salt"
 - Battle of Worldviews – Opposition between God's truth claims and the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil
- **What is Truth? - Truth as it relates to Reality**
 - Webster's 1828 definition – "Conformity to fact or reality"
 - Equating an idol to a lie - Isaiah 44 – Lies are powerful and lead us to insane notions
 - What is Insanity? – We all suffer from "Common Insanity" - losing touch with reality
 - Our actions reflect what we believe to be *really real*: Jesus' example in Matthew 6 asking "Why do you worry?...will He not care for you, O you of little faith?"
 - Connecting faith with our actions and emotions: God is the object of our faith and our hope – Our actions are the most reliable indicator of our beliefs
 - God is the ultimate source of Truth – Colossians 2:2-3
- **Conclusion – "Do you *really* believe, that what you believe is *really real*?"**

Recommended Reading

- Blamires, Harry. 1963, reprinted 1978. *The Christian Mind: How Should a Christian Think?* Ann Arbor, MI: Servant Books.
- Guinness, Os. 2000. *Time for Truth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.
- LaHaye, Tim and David A. Noebel. 2000. *Mind Siege*. Nashville, TN: Word Publishing.
- Pearcey, Nancy. 2004. *Total Truth*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.
- Schaeffer, Francis A. 1984. *The Great Evangelical Disaster*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.
- J.P. Moreland, *Love Your God with All Your Mind*.



Key Terms - Week #1

Antithesis: The complete or exact opposite of something. The truth claims of God in direct opposition to the lies of the world, the flesh and the devil.

Bifurcation: To divide or separate into two parts; to split or branch off into two parts

Common Insanity: A sickness we all suffer from. We have bought into the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil and therefore we live as if the lie is true, denying reality.

Compass illustration: looking at life from a 360 degree perspective. A graphic means to illustrate that there is no area in life that God has not spoken.

Comprehensive: Covering a wide area, all inclusive, large in scope.

Cosmic Battle: Battle between God's Truth and the lies and illusions of the world, the flesh and the devil. The arguments and pretensions that set themselves up against the knowledge of God, against His nature and His word.

Delude: To lead from God's truth into false beliefs; persuade somebody to believe in something that is untrue or unreal.

Idol: A false source of salvation, sustenance, or power. Isaiah 44 equates an idol to a lie. These lies lead us into insane notions.

Insanity: Losing touch with reality; believing the lie is real. Extreme foolishness or an act that demonstrates it.

Jewels in the Cave: Dr. Tackett often refers to specific topics or truth claims that are of particular interest as "jewels in the cave."

Pathology: Any condition that is a departure or deviation from the true design. Dr. Tackett uses "pathology" to describe areas of distortion within the social spheres.

Pell-mell: In a disorderly frantic rush; confused, jumbled or messy manner.

Pernicious Lie: The lie that man is basically good and that his greatest need is to self-actualize and get in touch with his inner desires.

Spheres: Social institutions or systems that we live and interact in (family, church, state, labor, community, and the intimate relationship between God and man). Each sphere has distinct members with unique roles and responsibilities.

Systematic: Carried out in a methodical and organized manner; deliberate and regular system of organization.

Tour: Dr. Tackett likes to refer to each lesson as a tour in which he is our guide.

Truth temple illustration: a logical and graphic framework to organize Truth Project topics.

Truth: Correspondence to reality. Truth is that which is really real. Our actions reflect what we believe to be really real.

Veritology: The study of Truth; particularly the study of God's character and His Word as it relates to reality.

Worldview: A comprehensive set of truth claims that purports to paint a picture of reality; the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world.

Scripture References - Week #1

Isaiah 6:1-8	John 18:33-38	Matt 5:18	Matt 10:15	Matt 11:17	Matt 16:28	Matt17:20
Matt 18:3	Matt 19:23	Matt 21:21	Matt 23:36	Matt 24:2	Matt 25:40	Matt 26:21
Matt 26:34	John 3:3	John 3:5	John 3:11	John 5: 19, 24, 25		John 1:17
John 14:6	John 6: 26, 32, 47, 53		John 8: 34, 51, 58		John 17:17	John 4:24
John 8:32	John 14:16-17	John 16:13	1 Tim 2:3-4	Eph 6:14	Isaiah 59:4	Jer 7:28
Isaiah 59:15	1 Tim 6:13	2 Tim 4:3-4	Rom 1:18	Acts 20:30	Rom 2:8	Rom 1:25
1 John 4:6	Job 1 & 2	2 Thess 2:9-13	John 8: 34-37	Rom 7:11	2 Thess 2:10	Eph 4:22
Heb 3:13	1 John 3:10	2 Tim 2:24-26	Col 4:5-6	Isaiah 44:18-20		Isaiah 44:17
Matt 6: 25-34	Col 2:2-3					