

“Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” — John 12:21

Welcome Visitors!

You are our honored guests and we are pleased that you have chosen to visit us today. Our goal is to do everything according to God's word, including respecting its silence. This is a church of Christ; we are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church and we have no earthly "headquarters." The six elders oversee this work and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily aimed at our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don't understand something, please do not hesitate to ask one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God's word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

Please Fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection plate. Thank you

Schedule

The Lord's Day

9:30 - Classes

Auditorium: Fellowship

Rooms 13/14: Jesus in the Gospel of John (cont'd)

Room 17: Young Adults Class (18-29)

10:30 - Assembly

Speaking today: Zach McGinnis

2 PM Class at the building

Room 13/14 Hebrews

5 PM (building)

Sermon on the Mount

Weekly Young Adult Class

Class at Angie & Trey's: 5PM

Tuesday, No Class

Resumes on January 28th

Wednesday, 7 PM

Auditorium: Fellowship

Men's Saturday Morning Meeting

7 AM, second Saturday of the month
(see Tyler Wade)

Information

Children's Classes

We have classes for children from 18 months and up. Please see the map in the hallway or ask any of the members which room is appropriate for you and/or your child. There are several Bible studies in progress on Sunday afternoon and evening. Check with David Posey if you have questions.

Restrooms

There are two sets of restrooms: one off the first hallway to the right of the lobby and another at the end of the first hallway to the left. Ask anyone and they'll be happy to point you in the right direction.

For Small Children

There is a special room for nursing mothers and a separate "cry room" at the rear of the auditorium. You enter them from the first hallway to the right, across from the restrooms.

Online

You can find copies of class material and archives of previous editions of the View and listen to sermons online at www.folsom.com. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/folsomchurch>.

View & Junior View

Be sure to pick up a copy of the View and Junior View; both are sent out weekly, plus there are some hard copies printed on Sundays.

Where Do I Fit?

Dee Bowman

My Dad was a great fellow. He was rather introverted, even bordered on being timid. But there was a kind of inner stability about him that made you know that his timidity was not a sign of anything—except the wisdom it takes to be quiet and listen. He had a philosophical bent about him and when he did say something, you could usually put it in your pocket and use it later because it was something that made good sense.

We moved to the Plains of West Texas when I was 5 years old. My dad kept books at the cotton Gin for Hume Russell. Later, when we had saved up a little money, he bought a dry cleaning shop in Morton. In addition to cleaning clothes, Dad ordered tailor-made suits for the National Tailoring Company in Chicago. We still have a nice quilt Mom made out of the wool suit samples he would show to prospective buyers. He was an expert at measuring a person for clothes and “that’s the key to having satisfied customers,” he would say. We didn’t always have much—didn’t even have a car until I was 12 or 13—but we had nice clothes, so everybody thought we were better off than we were.

One thing my Dad said about clothes has stayed with me all these years. “Things wear out where they don’t fit,” he said. In other words, if you buy things that fit you, you can wear them much longer. Things wear out where they don’t fit.

That’s true of humans, too, you know. Folks soon wear out where they don’t fit.

If you’re in a crowd where you don’t fit, chances are you won’t stay long—mainly because you don’t think you look good there. When you feel welcome—that is, when you fit—you’ll more likely stay longer and be more of a part of the overall picture.

Where do you fit here? Let’s look at some things that are necessary for a good fit.

A good fit begins with a good measurement. You have to measure yourself. Introspection may be the hardest kind of inspection. First of all, it requires complete honesty. You have to take a long look at your assets and liabilities and see how you can best use what you have and try and do better at what you lack. That’s not easy, but just remember, not everybody fits into

every slot, and you’re apt to wear out if you force yourself into some area where you don’t fit. Paul said, (Gal. 6:4), “But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone and not in another.” Self-examination always begins with a good heart (Psalm 15:1-2).

You have to want to. You won’t fit if you don’t want to. Many times people who complain about not being a part, don’t fit in because deep down, they don’t really want to. If you want to, you can fit. How sad to see some folks who complain bitterly—and talk loudly—because they don’t have a place when they never tried to fit in. The one talent man (Matt. 25:25) didn’t fit into his master’s plan not because he couldn’t, but because he decided not to.

You have to stay in your own place. Not everybody fits everywhere and not everybody can do everything. Sometimes you have to just be satisfied with where you fit and try to fit nicely into your own spot. Actually, if you try and force yourself into a place where you don’t fit, you mess up the whole picture and someone who actually fits where you’re trying to is left to fit where he doesn’t fit either. And that makes for trouble. The various parts of the body function together to make the whole body strong, but the liver doesn’t try to be what’s it not and the feet don’t try and take the place of the ears (see I Cor. 12:14-f).

Everybody fits. There are no unimportant parts in this picture. Every single part—no matter how small or seemingly insignificant it may seem—has a place. When a part is missing, it messes up the entire picture and, rather than blending in to the whole, the void causes people to see only the missing part, thus distracting terribly from the big picture. And how wonderful just to know that you have a place, and one that no one else is fitted for. When Paul says we are “knitted together,” he says the knitting is supplied by every joint contributing its part by “the effective working by which every part does its share” (Eph. 4:17). Only when every part does its part can the whole body be effective.

So, let’s get together. Let’s gather together all the parts of this church and fit them into the over-all scheme of things and get to the business of being lights in the world—a picture that will reflect to the world around us that we’re serious about the business of going to heaven and that we’re interested in taking as many people with us we can.

What Is Truth?

by Roy Cogdill

Nothing is more important than truth. Only the truth can make men free. Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Error will only further enslave, but truth makes men free! The wise man said, "Buy the truth and sell it not" (Prov. 23:23). Truth is supreme in its value. We can afford to pay whatever it costs and when once we possess it, we cannot afford to take any price for it. The importance and necessity of it should be always exalted in our hearts.

There is no substitute for truth. It can be replaced only with error. Nothing else is "just as good as truth." Yet even in spiritual matters that concern the soul, we are often told that we should accept a substitute for the truth, for something else is just as good.

Truth is always consistent. It is never out of harmony with truth. There is no contradiction in truth. Whenever an apparent contradiction seems to exist, it is because we do not know the whole truth. There are not two correct answers to the same problem or question. When there is a variance, both cannot be right.

Truth is always narrow. Every kind of truth is narrow. Mathematical truth is narrow. Two and two make exactly four-no more, no less, and whoever says they make anything else is wrong. There are thousands of numbers that two and two do not make (error is broad) and only one that they do make-truth is narrow.

Scientific truth is narrow. Under ordinary conditions at sea level, water freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit, just that, no more, no less. There are thousands of temperatures at which water does not freeze. Suppose a man should say: "I am very broad in my scientific beliefs. I am not one of your scientific bigots who insist that water freezes at just 32 degrees, and that all who think differently are wrong. No, I admit that water freezes at 20, 25, 30, 32, 38 and 40 degrees, and at any other temperature. Just so a man is sincerer, it does not matter at what temperature he believes water freezes. I am broad in my science." What would we think of such a man?

Historical truth is narrow. A given event took place in one particular way. There are thousands of ways in which it did not take place. It is the business of a jury

to so consider the testimonies of the witnesses, each giving his impression, that they can determine just how the event did take place. So the historian is to use the date to determine just how the events he describes did take place. Suppose a professed historian should say: "I have very broad views of history. I abominate the narrow bigotry which says that a given event took place in only one particular way and that whoever says differently is wrong. I believe the event took place in a hundred ways, and just so a man is sincere, it does not matter how he believes it took place."

Geographical truth is narrow. There is but one right direction to London from where the reader sits, while there are thousands of wrong directions. If you point toward London, you must point in one definite direction. If you point in either of a thousand other directions, you are not pointing toward London. Suppose a man should say: "I am not one of your geographical bigots, who say that there is only one right direction toward London, from where he stands, while all who point in any other direction are wrong. No, indeed, I am broad in my views of geography, and any way a man chooses to start, is the right way to London, if only he be honest; and whichever way he starts, he will get to London just the same." What would intelligent people think of such an attitude?

Application

How does it come to pass that what is recognized as the most arrogant nonsense in all other realms, is greedily swallowed when it comes to the realm of religion, where truth is most important? Whether a man be right or wrong in mathematics, in science, in history, in geography, etc., is of comparatively small importance, but his character and his eternal destiny depend upon his being right in religion. Only the truth has the power to make men free from spiritual bondage.

While truth is narrow, it does not follow that anything is truth because it is narrow. One would be just as narrow if he affirmed that two and two make five and nothing else, as to say two and two make four. We may be narrow and still be wrong. Narrowness alone does not establish the truth. But if we are broad in what we believe to be the truth, we are certain to be wrong. Truth is narrow, and hence belief of the truth must be narrow.



Read your Bible daily