

Understanding Our Times...

and the Biblical Path Forward

the Cosmic Battle

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AMCF

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Understanding Our Times...

the Cosmic Battle

the Real Pandemic

the Empty Quest

the Biblical Path Forward

how to engage the outsider
in hostile times

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DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

“The sons of Issachar **understood** the times in which they lived and **knew** what Israel should **do**.”

-1 Chronicles 12:32

“**understanding**” = בינה / **binah**

Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.

-Matthew 16:3

Do we **understand** our times?

Do we **know** what we should **do**?

And our place in the Meta-Narrative?

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the Cosmic Battle

an obscure man...

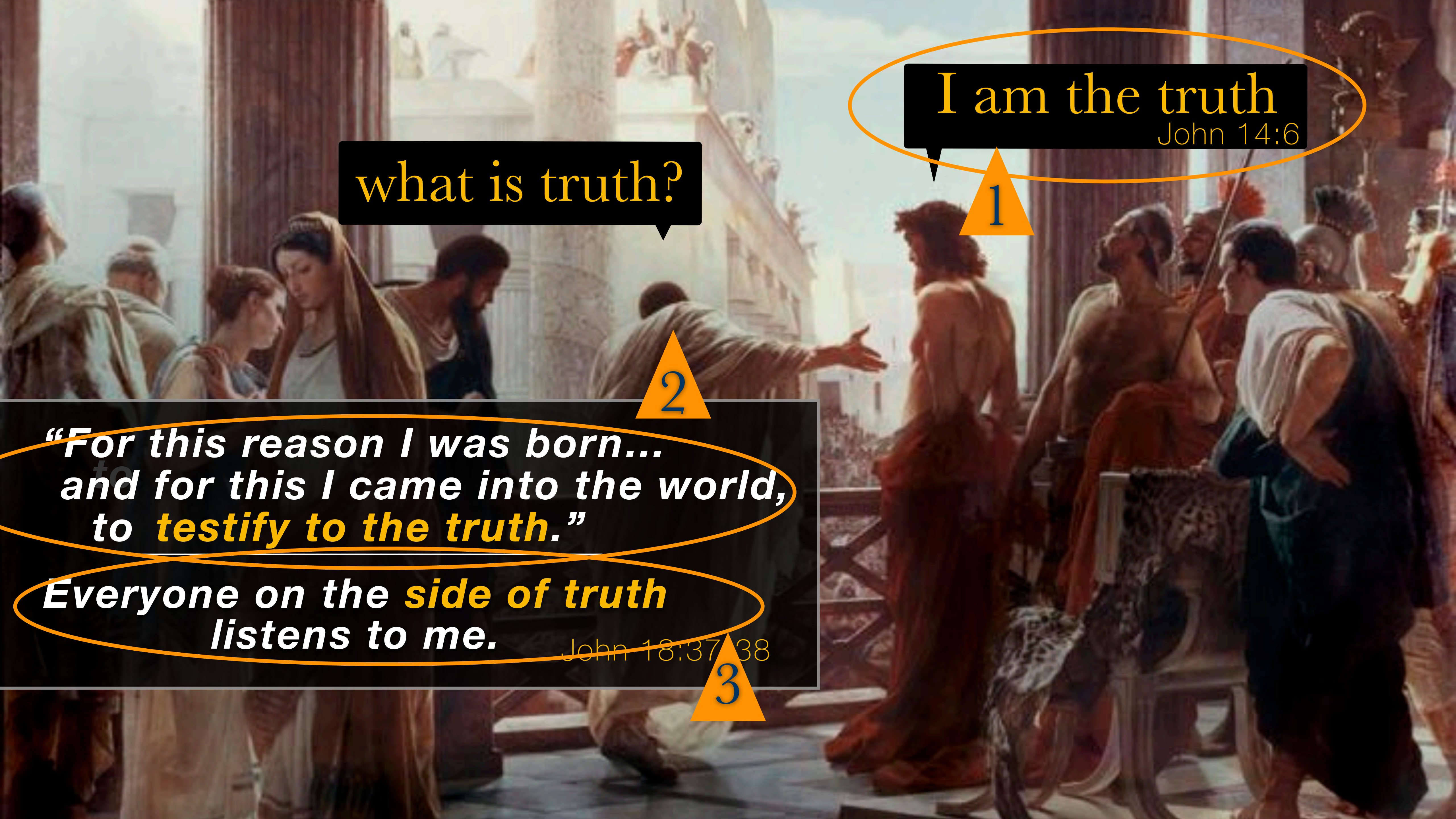
arrested

THE GOOD CONFESSION



...Jesus,
who while testifying before Pontius Pilate
made the good confession...

I Timothy 6:13



what is truth?

I am the truth
John 14:6

1

2

**“For this reason I was born...
and for this I came into the world,
to *testify to the truth.*”**

**Everyone on the *side of truth*
listens to me.**

John 18:37-38

3

what is truth?

1

I am the truth

God is the source of all Truth

2

testify to the truth

everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth

3

side of truth

when it comes to Truth, there are sides

what is truth?



God is Truth & the source of all Truth



everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth



when it comes to Truth, there are sides



God is Truth & the source of all Truth

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life...”

John 14:6

Truth and the nature of God



God is Truth & the source of all Truth

“I am the truth” John 14:6

“...Christ Himself, in whom are hidden
all the treasures of wisdom and
knowledge.

I say this in order that no one may
delude you with **persuasive argument.**”

Colossians 2:2-3



God is Truth & the source of all Truth

the source of truth, therefore, is not

the whim of the king

the law of the land

the current scientific paradigm

the majority, the polls, a social construct

elites, movie/sports stars, pop idols

heart of man

my opinion, your opinion (relativity)

the internet mob



God is Truth & the source of all Truth

the source of truth, therefore, is not

my sincerity and beliefs

just because you believe something is true,
doesn't make it true

even if you really, really believe it...

what is truth?

1

God is Truth & the source of all Truth

2

everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth

3

when it comes to Truth, there are sides

2 everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth

“I am the way the truth and the life...” **John 14:6**

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.”
Luke 21:33

“I and the Father are one.” **John 10:30**

“I am the alpha and the omega... the beginning and the end.” **Rev 22:13**



everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth

“Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” **John 14:9**

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life... no one will snatch them out of my hand.”

John 10:27-28

Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

John 9:39



everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth

For this reason I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.

truth must be very, very important

the Word of God

2 everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth

HOW DOES GOD SEE IT?

from the Psalms

“Behold, you desire **truth** in the innermost being...” Psalm 51:6

“The LORD is near to all who call on him in **truth**.” Psalm 45:4

“Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the **God of truth**.”

Psalm 31:5

what is truth?

- 1 God is Truth & the source of all Truth
- 2 everything He says and does is a testimony to the Truth
- 3 when it comes to Truth, there are sides

3

when it comes to Truth, there are sides

*For this reason I was born and for this I came into the world, to **testify to the truth**.
Everyone on the **side of truth** listens to me.*

John 18:37-38



when it comes to Truth, there are sides

*Everyone on the side of truth **listens** to me.*

John 18:37-38

there are sides

TRUTH



LIES

there are sides

Everyone on the *side of truth listens* to me.

SPIRIT OF
TRUTH

SPIRIT OF LIES
(FALSEHOOD)

We are from God,
and whoever knows God **listens** to us;
but whoever is not from God does
not listen to us.

This is how we recognize the
spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

1 John 4:6

THE COSMIC BATTLE



THE COSMIC BATTLE

WHAT DOES MAN DO WITH THE TRUTH?

Even from your own number men will arise and **distort the truth** Acts 20:30

They **exchanged the truth of God for a lie**, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator Romans 1:25

But for those who are self-seeking and who **reject the truth and follow evil**, there will be wrath and anger Romans 2:8

The wrath of God is being revealed...of men who **suppress the truth** Romans 1:18

THE COSMIC BATTLE

and the *Attack* against the Word of God

all attempts to...

extinguish,
suppress,
discredit,
destroy,
dilute,
deny,
ignore...

by all the powers...

empires,
religions,
philosophy,
science,
academia,
judiciary...

all have failed

THE COSMIC BATTLE

and the **Attack** against the Word of God

all have failed

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the **Word of the Lord** stands forever.

1 Peter 1:24-25

The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the **word of our God** will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8

THE COSMIC BATTLE & THE PROPHET'S LAMENT

“...truth has stumbled in the streets...” Isaiah 59:14

“Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips.” Jeremiah 7:28

“Truth is nowhere to be found...” Isaiah 59:15

THE COSMIC BATTLE

The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of **counterfeit** miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that **deceives** those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the **truth** and so be saved...

2 Thessalonians 2:9-13

THE COSMIC BATTLE

“...Yet because I tell the **truth**, you do not believe me!...If I am telling the **truth**, why don't you believe me? He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you **do not belong** to God.”

John 8:44-46

THE COSMIC BATTLE

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the **truth**, for there is **no truth** in him. When he **lies**, he speaks his native language, for he is a **liar** and the father of **lies**...”

John 8:44-46

THE COSMIC BATTLE

Connecting Sin, Lies & Deceit

“sin...deceived me...” Romans 7:11

“...every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing.” 2 Thessalonians 2:10

“..put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires...”
Ephesians 4:22

“...so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”

Hebrews 3:13

THE COSMIC BATTLE



Truth

Reality

VS



Lie

Illusion

1 John 3:10

“This is how we know who the children of God are and

who the children of the devil are...”

THE COSMIC BATTLE & CAPTIVES

The Lord's servant must gently instruct his opponents...“in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the **truth**, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them **captive** to do his will.”

2 Timothy 2:24-26

THE COSMIC BATTLE

AM I A CAPTIVE?

“See to it that no one takes you **captive** through **hollow and deceptive** philosophy, which depends upon human tradition and the elementary principles of this world **rather than on Christ.**”

Colossians 2:8

THE COSMIC BATTLE

...the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the **truth** and turn aside to **myths**.

2 Timothy 4:3-4

THE COSMIC BATTLE

myths

what is the greatest “myth”, the greatest “lie”
in our times?

the Real Pandemic

one last thing...

For the law was given through Moses;
grace and **truth** came through Jesus Christ.

John 1:17

For the law was given through Moses;
grace and **truth** came through Jesus Christ.

John 1:17

Two great themes in scripture:

Old Testament

New Testament



what is Truth?

what is Love?

Old Testament

New Testament



how does **today's**
world answer Pilate's question?

what is truth?

this question could well be the most
important question that **we** and our
culture and our **world** must answer

THE COSMIC BATTLE

THE COSMIC BATTLE

TRUTH



LIES

THE COSMIC BATTLE



the problem with
blind men who
now see

John 9

Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

John 9:39

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THE COSMIC BATTLE

next: *the Real Pandemic*

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