

Three Absolute Truths  
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September 8, 2019

An outline from Ward Hayes' handwritten notes:

Absolute truth is defined as something that is...

- true at all times
- true in all places
- true no matter the circumstances
- a fact that cannot be changed

Our world today struggles with absolute truth, especially in the area of faith. This should not be unexpected, as we should not expect unbelievers to understand/act/believe as believers do.

In recent months, two prominent individuals have announced their rejection of and/or struggle with continuing as Christ-followers (Joshua Harris & Marty Sampson). I believe both of these individuals have neglected these three absolute truths.

#### **I. Jesus is the ONLY Way to Salvation**

Three perspectives

*a. Jesus said so*

John 14:6; 10:9; 3:17-21; 6:29, 57

John 3:36 - a summary by John the Baptizer

C.S. Lewis' trilemma (liar, lunatic, or Lord)

Acts 4:12

*b. If Jesus is not the ONLY way, then Jesus died in vain*

If Jesus is simply one of the many ways to salvation, then he didn't have to die

Gal 2:21 - if salvation comes another way, then Jesus died in vain

Heb 7:27; 9:22; 10:4 - paints the picture of the necessity of Jesus' sacrifice

*c. ONLY Jesus conquered death*

1 Cor 15:26 reminds us of the importance of the Resurrection to come - not a revival of this old body but a new, eternal body to come

No one else has conquered death. No other religion can match what Jesus has done.

The Importance: In the difficult times, when our circumstances don't make sense, when we are unable to understand, what will we do? Because of this absolute truth, we respond like Peter: John 6:66-69. We anchor in the truth of Jesus, trusting God will reveal more in the days ahead.

**II. God's Love is Unconditional**

God's love - agape = love that always wants what is truly best for us

Unconditional - God's love for us stems from His character, not our actions.

John 3:16 - God's love for all stated

1 Tim 2:4; 2 Pet 3:9 - God desires that ALL would be saved

Rom 5:8 - God demonstrated/proved his love for all

**III. Relationship with God is Conditional**

Relationship with God is not automatic, guaranteed, or forced.

Relationship is conditioned upon receiving God's offer of grace and forgiveness, and surrendering one's life to His lordship.

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Deut 30:15-19; Josh 24:15 The choice of spiritual life or death is set before us

John 15:4-6 Relationship/abiding with Christ is conditional

**Review**

Jesus is the ONLY way - hold firm in the storms

God loves you best and always

Relationship is offered; do you accept?