

The Role of a Christian University in God's Mission: *The Truth in Jesus*

2000 yrs ago Pontius Pilate asked QUESTION WORLD STILL Asking:

"What is truth?" Pilate asked. John 18.38

Thru AGES > NUANCES of Question CHANGES:

West TODAY Not WHERE is Truth, IS there ANY REAL TRUTH?

Question EVER RELEVANT – Commerce, Communication, Classroom

1 Presupposition: A Christian University is a servant of God's Church.

Jesus NEVER said 'I will build a UNIVERSITY': DIED for His Church

2 Presupposition: The primary reason the Church exists is to make known God's Truth.

Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, *in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life*--in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

Philippians 2.14-16

Church is LIGHT BEARING PILLAR of WORD of LIFE

IF Believers ARGUING & COMPLAINING takes FOCUS OFF Main Thing –

Holding out Word of Life – Paul's Sacrificial Efforts of Ministry are Vain

The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and *the seven lampstands are the seven churches*.

Revelation 1.20

Similar IMAGE of Church > BEARING God's Light of TRUTH to WORLD

...God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

1 Timothy 3.15

If Church's PRIMARY TASK is to MAKE KNOWN THE TRUTH OF GOD

AND If Christian UNIVERSITY Exists to SERVE the CHURCH

3 Presupposition: The primary mission of a Christian University is to help prepare God's Church to define, defend, and declare His Truth.

1. God's Truth is Received by Faith

Many Christian University Statements of Faith begins with Bible

Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. Romans 10.17

Simple Formula: Know God? Know Bible! Know Bible? Know Jesus!

Biblical TRUTH is BOTH PROPOSITIONAL and PERSONAL

BELIEF in GOD is Described RELATIONALLY in SCRIPTURE:

To KNOW God we MUST be GOD'S Children, Servants, Bride, Friends!

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life." John 14.6

Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. Ephesians 4.21

TRUTH is PERSON > FAITH in Jesus who IS TRUTH > WORD made FLESH

REJECTING God and TRUTH Revealed in Jesus > SINFUL & STUPID

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good. The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one. Psalm 14.1-3

EVERYONE'S Belief SYSTEM is ULTIMATELY Based on FAITH

Freshman college Biology > Ph.d. in Evolution > New Christian

Why?? Why? Why? "I believe it because I believe it!"

ROCK of GIBRALTAR for our FAITH > HISTORICAL Resurrection of Jesus

Biblical Faith > Transformation of Whole Person – Head, Heart, Mind, Will

Biblical Faith > Love God Comprehensively, Neighbor Completely

2. God's Truth is Finally Recorded in Scripture

Jesus Christ is CLIMAX and CULMINATION of God's REVELATION

He is WORD OF GOD Made FLESH and Made FINAL

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son Hebrews 1.1,2

PROGRESSIVE Revelation of HEBREW SCRIPTURE Now CLIMAXED in SON

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 1.20

NOT NEED – Muhammed's Quran / Book of Mormon / Pope speaking from Chair

Modern So-Called APOSTLES & PROPHETS who ADD to SCRIPTURE

MORE than NOT NEED > Make CLEAR STAND Against > Refute & REJECT

I felt I had to write and urge you to **contend** for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Jude 3

CONTEND: STAND FIRM / REVELATION declares REDEMPTION

We have BOTH FINISHED Work of SAVIOR & FINAL WORD of SCRIPTURE

I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

Revelation 22.18,19

John CLOSED Apocalypse with WARNING / H.S. Primary Author END of BIBLE
FINAL and TRUSTWORTHY Word from God in Scripture: Place to STAND

This world cannot ultimately be bettered if you think that this world is all. To move the world you must have a place to stand.

J. Gresham Machen

PLACE to STAND – MESSAGE from OUTSIDE World by MAKER of WORLD

3. God's Truth is Fully Revealed in Christ

My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, *Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

Colossians 2.2,3

Paul writes to TROUBLED Church in Colossae > Trouble is FALSE TEACHERS

You Christians are MISSING OUT – Don't have FULL, DEEP, SPECIAL Truth

NEED US! High Priced Anointed Teachers for the FULL UNDERSTANDING!

NOT Much has CHANGED in 2000 yrs of CHURCH HISTORY!

PAUL > God's Truth – for HEAD and HEART – HIDDEN in CHRIST ALONE

HIDDEN – All RESIDES in Christ but NOT ALL REVEALED to Us

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

Revelation 19.11,12

JOHN Sees our Lord Coming in CONSUMATION Glory – Finish His ENEMIES
 REVEALED in GLORY > BUT Still MYSTERIOUS – NAME only He Knows
 BIBLE tells us MUCH about GOD > BUT Not EVERYTHING

In Scripture we have true truth but not exhaustive truth. Francis Schaeffer

God MADE us CURIOUS – COMMANDS Us to INVESTIGATE

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Genesis 1.28

LEARN how to ENJOY – NOT EXPLOIT – HIS WORLD / Bless OTHERS!

AS we LEARN > DRAW from Treasures of WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE in Christ
 LAW, SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, HUMANITIES, THEOLOGY

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11.33-36

TRUE Scholarship COMES to Jesus & JOINS with Jesus to DISCOVER ALL

The TRUTHS that are ULTIMATELY Found in HIM

More than CENTURY Ago – Near Eastern Scholars LAUGHED at Old Testament
 References to HITTITE People in OT: NO Evidence in ARCHEOLOGY Discovery
 Then – SURPRISE! – Found HITTITE Evidences – Soon ABUNDANT Proof!
 Speedy HARE tries OUTFRAN Steady TURTLE: Hare arrives Turtle Already There

MAN swings a MIGHTY HAMMER but the ANVIL of God's WORD STANDS
 BIBLE does NOT Speak about EVERY AREA of LIFE – Ancient Document
 Bible's TRUTH that APPLIES to ALL OF LIFE throughout ALL TIME
 GOD'S WORD for GOD'S WORLD to do GOD'S WORK

There is not a square inch in the whole domain in our human existence over which
 Christ, who is sovereign over all, does not cry: "Mine!" Abraham Kuyper

Prime Minister of NETHERLANDS / Founder of FREE UNIVERSITY

Christian Univ place to LEARN to THINK "Christianly" about ALL of LIFE
 Christians in EVERY DISCIPLINE – Christ-Centered World and LIFE VIEW

Discovering More of GLORY of GOD and TRUTH in JESUS > Eternal Adventure
 Every DAY in HEAVEN be a WOW! Day – Forever AMAZED by Awesome God
 HEAVEN is ETERNAL because HIS Glory & Truth are INEXHAUSTIBLE

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy,
 which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than
 on Christ. For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you
 have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

Colossians 2.8,9

4. God's Truth is Fought Against by Rebellious People

Personal Joy see what God is DOING here in UCU > Clear Stand for TRUTH

1980's GOD'S Truth FOUGHT AGAINST at BTTC > PAINFUL Memories

Only here 3 Years > Left Abruptly in 1990 - Father Dying in USA

MIGHT have BEEN RELEASED > DISMISSED from 2 Classes for Narrow Ideas

1) Believed man named Isaiah wrote 66 chapters of OT Book of Isaiah

2) Believed a creature like a Serpent actually spoke to a real Adam & Eve

Very FAMILIAR w/ OTHER THEOLOGIES – Explained them CLEARLY

Dared to REFUTE Them – Show from SCRIPTURE why They're WRONG

NOT Blindly SWALLOW the LIES of IMPORTED LIBERAL Theology

NOT Want POISON KILLING Churches in Europe & USA HERE Too!

Tried to DISAGREE without BEING DISAGREEABLE

FATHER asked to RUN KIDS Soccer PRACTICE – NO PROBLEM

COACH dropped off BAG of BALLS > Met Kids at PARK

BALLS Out > Soon CHAOS, FIGHTING, CRYING, CONFUSION, ARGUING

Something ELSE in Bag of BALLS > ORANGE PLASTIC CONES

MARKED the Field > CLEAR Boundaries > ALL SEE what is IN & OUT!

CLEAR Boundaries brought PEACE, HARMONY, ORDER - Kids had FUN!

SCHOLARS NOT STIFLED by Scripture but SET FREE by its BOUNDARIES

TODAY RELATIVISM is Prevalent – NO Boundaries, No Truth, No Real FUN!

TODAY in USA Schools Measured by PARTIES > Rate Best Party Schools

Even CHRISTIAN Schools – BINGE Drinking, Sexual Hook Ups, God Knows!

No TRUTH – No BOUNDARIES – No SHAME – No FEAR OF GOD

Recent DNA Studies of HUMAN GENOME Project – Led by Professing Christian
 NEWEST Studies have FOUND Great DISCOVERY about HUMAN ORIGINS
 Impossible that All HUMANS from SAME Original Parents: ie. NO Adam & Eve
 Paul > Jesus is 2nd ADAM – LAST ADAM

UNDERSTANDING of SIN – What is WRONG with World, Us > Adam’s SIN

UNDERSTANDING of SALVATION – How to get RIGHT with God

JESUS – RIGHTEOUS ADAM – Gives IMPUTED & IMPARTED Righteousness

--- thus, NO Real ADAM > NO SIN, NO JESUS, NO SALVATION!

SCIENCE becomes STANDARD > MASTER over Truth, NOT Servant to FIND
 Truth UNDER the FINAL AUTHORITY of God and His Word

Fight > Not against Flesh and Blood > FATHER of LIES, STEALS the TRUTH

Romans 1- What MAN does to GOD’S TRUTH

v. 20 “clearly seen, being understood from what has been made”

v. 21 “they knew God”

v. 18 “suppress the truth by their wickedness” **Ball in pool at Colline Hotel**

v. 25 “exchanged the truth of God for a lie”

v. 22 “although they claimed to be wise, they became fools”

v. 24 “therefore God gave them over in the sinful desire of their hearts”

v. 18 “the wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness
 and wickedness of men who suppress the truth”

TRAGIC INDICTMENT ON THE HUMAN RACE – ALL SINNED

VIEW OF GOD'S TRUTH DETERMINES ETERNAL DESTINY

“They perish because they refused to love the truth & so be saved 2 Thessalonians 2.10

“all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness”
2 Thessalonians 2.12

3 Presupposition: The primary mission of a Christian University is to help prepare God's Church to define, defend, and declare His Truth.

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10.3-5

Americans BOMBING Afghanistan over 10 Years

MOST Technologically SOPHISTICATED Army in the WORLD TODAY

Every kind of BOMB, GUN, AIRPLANE, HELICOPTER, DRONES

Could stay 100 Years BOMB Afghanistan to PURE POWDERED DUST!

Those GREAT WEAPONS are TOO WEAK > People's Mind UNCHANGED

TALIBAN – PROMISES and PAYMENTS > MORE ATTRACTIVE than WEST

Only GOD thru His WORD has WEAPON STRONG ENOUGH to Change Hearts

ONLY God's Word, Applied by God's Spirit – Brings Every Thought Captive to X

"Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"
Jeremiah 23.29

5. Followers of God's Truth Need Constant Renewal in the Truth

God's TRUTH is NOT JUST Propositional but also PERSONAL > JESUS

Jesus – God's TRUE WORD INCARNATE – Ascended to Seat of Power & Glory

WE REMAIN in the TRUTH of JESUS through the SPIRIT OF JESUS

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. John 16.13

ORIGINAL Audience of PROMISE // PRIMARY RECIPIENT – Spirit of TRUTH

APOSTLES > By INSPIRATION of SPIRIT – Given us NEW TESTAMENT

Jesus PROMISE Applied to US > Thru WORD and SPIRIT we have GOD'S Truth

To UNDERSTAND Word of God? You must be FILLED with the SPIRIT of God!

Want to be FILLED with SPIRIT of God? You must KNOW the WORD of GOD!

SPIRIT of God works thru WORD of God > Like 2 BLADES of SCISSORS

...(keep on being) filled with the Spirit Ephesians 5.18

BELIEVERS Need CONSTANT Filling with SPIRIT of GOD

Bible images of Connectedness: Vine & Branches / Living Water / Bearing FRUIT

Various PICTURES of ONE REALITY > APART from Jesus you DIE

“He who is not busy bein' born is busy dyin'” Bob Dylan

Reason we have to KEEP being FILLED with Holy Spirit – WE LEAK!

HUGE OIL Tankers on SEAS – 10 MILES to come to FULL STOP

Means can be in MILE 5 – With ENGINES OFF – AND LOOK Going Strong!

LOOK Like GOING STRONG at UCU – Admin – Faculty – Staff – Students

BUT are your ENGINES REALLY TURNED OFF??

Are YOU Sailing Strong in Mile 5? In 5 Miles will you come to DEAD STOP?

We will ALL be in DEAD STOP – Unless we REFUEL! – We are LEAKING!

Bishop BUGIMBE – Used to tell story of ROOSTER with RED Growth on Head

IMPRESSIVE – Told EVERYONE that thing is HOT – ADMIRER by ALL

GREAT ROOSTER with that HOT RED HEAD

SOMEONE Accidentally TOUCHED when SLEEPING > REALLY COLD!!

Where are YOU in MISSION Week?

DON'T NEED Personal RENEWAL? Don't Need to SHOW EXAMPLE?

ENCOURAGE Attendance? ANALYZE Talks? INVITE Speakers?

Christian UNIVERSITIES ALSO Leak: Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, Princeton.....Hundreds More in MANY NATIONS....

ALL BEGAN as PASTORAL TRAINING Schools > STRONGLY Biblical

More than 20 UNIVERSITIES in CHINA began by CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES

1 & # 2 UNIV. in China – Xtian Founded Univ 100 Years Ago: Hidden TODAY

Jesus is UNI in UNIVERSITY – In HIM UNITY is held together with DIVERSITY

He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1.17

WITHOUT Jesus there is NO CENTRAL TRUTH – NO UNIFYING CENTER

ONLY in Jesus can UNIV. Speak w/ ONE VOICE: HIS VOICE of Revealed Truth

UNIVERSITIES that have LOST their CENTRAL TRUTH of Jesus

Are NO LONGER UNiversities but MERELY Centers for DIVERSITY

In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit. Judges 21.25

REMOVE King JESUS from the UNIVERSITY and the DARKNESS DELIGHTS!

WE LEAK – CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITIES LEAK > Must REMAIN FULL

Jesus: "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other." Matthew 6.24

Every 7 Years ISRAEL was SUPPOSED to have COVENANT RENEWAL

1000 Years of OT HISTORY > VERY, VERY, RARE OCCURRENCE

You can go to your college, you can go to your school, but if you don't know Jesus, you are an educated fool!

Barry McGwire

Constant Challenge to RECALIBRATE to FACE CENTER Point of BATTLE

WORLD and ITS LIES – CONSTANTLY MOVING TARGET

Please! Help prepare God's Church to define, defend, & declare His Truth.

Young Chinese/English Pastor, Colleague in BICF:

Christians have the truth and are led by the spirit of truth, so we should be able to attain a higher standard than non-Christians. However, since the Enlightenment secular philosophers have been redefining what truth is and Christian scholars have been trying to catch up, playing by the rules set by secular scholars. With the bankruptcy of modern thought and its replacement with Post-Modernism, the world is experiencing an existential and epistemological crisis and is looking for a new standard of truth. The Christian University is in a unique position to be taking advantage of this new era in the history of ideas, with the confidence that we can not only rival the best secular Universities, but outpace them, since we have a foundation of truth upon which we can stand upon, and they don't. Andrew Chiang
