

SERMON OUTLINE

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Barriers to Accepting Truth

March 14, 2010

I. The Anatomy of Truth

- A. Truth Is Unalterable: **Isaiah 55:10-11** - Accomplish God's desire
- B. My Conscience Compares: **Romans 2:14-15** - accusing/defending
- C. How I React to Truth Determines Its Impact
 - 1. **Change my life:** Willfully or Reluctantly
 - 2. **Remain in opposition to truth:**
 - a. Sear conscience - **1 Timothy 4:1-2** - listen to lies
 - b. Eventually hardened - **2 Thessalonians 2:10-12**
 - c. A life without direction - **Romans 1:24-25**

II. A Hard Or Soft Heart?

- A. Have We Checked Our Motives? - **Matthew 12:22-37**
 - 1. **Matthew 12:22-24** - God's power at work = TRUTH
 - a. Reaction: Dismiss truth - attribute to Satan
 - b. **12:28** - Jesus explains - truth is: I am from God (Impact)
 - 2. Impact: Jesus is from God: BOUGHT - **1 Cor 6:20**
 - 3. Run: **"But I am following the truth, see!"**: **Matthew 12:33-35** - speaking good?; **Matthew 7:21-23**; **Matthew 25:25**
 - 4. Solution: (1) Check Motives; (2) Prepare, God knows: **Matthew 12:36-37** - judge heart
- B. Have We Dulled Our Ears? **Hebrews 5:11-6:8**
 - 1. **Hebrews 5:11-12** - Needed to be taught the truth again
 - a. Dull of hearing = Doesn't really matter
 - b. Think: Maybe not knowing is better???
 - 2. Run: **"If I don't see it, it's not true!"**: **1 Thessalonians 5:2-6**
 - 3. Solution: (1) **Heb 5:14** - Seek and practice the truth; (2) **Heb 6:1** - Seek for growth; (3) **Heb 6:7** - Take opportunities
- C. Are We Stubbornly Following Sin? **Hebrews 10:26-31**
 - 1. **Hebrews 10:26-27** - Sinning willfully - knowing
 - a. Why? Doubt (**10:35**); Tired (**10:36**); Fear (**10:39**)
 - 2. Run: **"It's not that bad!"**: God will forgive: **Heb 10:26,29**; I'll do it later: **James 4:17**
 - 3. Solution: We have a job to do - **Heb 10:24-25**; Remember the mission - **Heb 10:32,34**; Look to judgment - **Heb 10:31**