The Nature of Truth
John 18:36-38

Introduction:
A. Like Pilate, many ask “What is truth?”
B. There are many kinds of truth.
   1. Scientific truth.
   3. Historical truth.
   5. Moral and spiritual truth – truth affecting our relationship with God.
C. The Bible deals with the latter, but does not contradict the others.
D. Our study is about the nature of moral and spiritual truth – its characteristics:

Discussion:

I. Truth is Knowable (John 8:32; 1 Tim. 4:3)
   A. Many, like Pilate, throw up their hands and say, “What is truth?”
      1. Think truth is so elusive, no one can find it for sure.
      2. Think truth is so subjective, each one must define his own version truth.
   B. If truth is unknowable then much of the Bible is useless nonsense.
      1. People are condemned for not loving and obeying the truth (Gal. 2:5, 14; 3:1; 2 Thess. 2:10)
      2. People are expected to come to a knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 3:7; Heb. 10:26)

II. Truth is Revealed (John 16:13).
   A. Cannot know the truth about God nor the truth of God without revelation (1 Cor. 1:21; 2:7-13)
   B. God’s will and purposes remain a mystery without revelation (Eph. 3:3-8)

III. Truth is Narrow (John 14:6; Rom. 3:4)
   A. Truth by definition is narrow – everything else is not true.
      1. Applies to all kinds of truth – Scientific, Mathematical, historical, etc.
      2. Especially applies to spiritual truth (cf. Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; 1 Cor. 12:20).
   B. The way to heaven is way of truth - the narrow way. (Matt. 7:12-14)

IV. Truth is Consistent (cf. 1 Cor. 15:12-14)
   A. If one proposition is the truth, then the opposite cannot be.
   B. Therefore, “one church is as good as another” cannot be true.
      1. Ill. What if one church embraced all the contradictory doctrines of Protestantism?
      2. Yet, the same doctrines spread among the churches considered ok.

V. Truth is Essential (2 Thess. 2:12)
   A. Without the truth, cannot be free (John 8:32)
   B. Without obeying the truth, cannot be saved (Rom. 2:8-11)

Conclusion:

A. Not only is the truth essential, consistent, narrow, revealed and knowable – it is doable (1 Jn 1:6)
B. We must do (obey) the truth to be saved or to be a Christian.
C. We must continue to do (obey) the truth (Gal. 5:7)