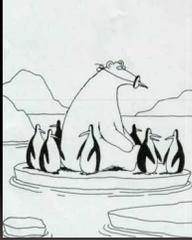


## OUR STRUGGLE





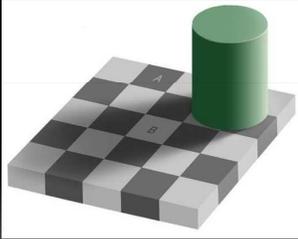
"And now Edgar's gone....  
Something's going on around here."

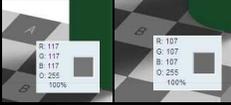


Hebrews 2:1

## WHAT IS TRUTH?







## WHAT IS TRUTH?

Having girded your loins with Truth.

- Truth by its very nature is:
  - Noncontradictory – it does not violate the basic laws of logic (LID, LNC, LEM, etc...)
  - Absolute – it does not depend upon time, place, or conditions.
    - Claims against absolute truth are self-defeating (violate the LNC): *there is absolutely no absolute truth.*
  - Discovered, not determined
    - It exists independently of our minds (like the Law of Gravity)
  - Descriptive
    - It is the agreement of the mind with reality.
  - Unchanging

## WHAT IS TRUTH?

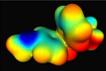
John 14:6 – "I am the Truth"

- Hebrews 13:7-9a – "Jesus Christ is the same"

Jesus as Truth – Is He God?

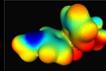
"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." (CS Lewis, *Mere Christianity*)

## JESUS IS THE TRUTH

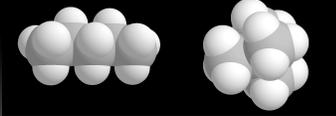


- Paul's Teaching
  - Paul's background:
    - A serious-minded and pious Jew – **Philippians 3:5-7**
    - An enemy of Christ and the church – **1 Timothy 1:12-14**
  - Paul's understanding of Jesus: **Philippians 2:5-11**
  - Paul here traces Jesus' life from eternity past, when He was in the form of God and equal to God, to His earthly work, back to His eternal future where He is again glorified with His Father.
  - In speaking of His eternity past position, Paul uses two words that deserve our close study.
    - morphē* (v. 6 – "in the form of God")
      - "form" – an outward similarity (**2 Timothy 3:5**)
      - "form" – "he was in good form today" a statement about the inside as well as the outside. (most common meaning and the one used here)
      - He possessed inwardly and displayed outwardly the very nature of God himself. (J. A. Motyer, *Philippian Studies: The Richness of Christ*)

## JESUS IS THE TRUTH

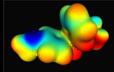


- Paul's Teaching
  - In speaking of His eternity past position, Paul uses two words that deserve our close study.
    - isos* (v. 6 – "equal")
      - Equal: *isomer, isomorph, isometric, isosceles triangle.*
      - Isomers are identical in essences, but different manifestations.
      - Isomers: pentane and 2,3-dimethylpropane.



- Identical in *essence* (both are C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub>)
- But different manifestations: at room temperature, pentane is a liquid while 2,3-dimethylpropane is a gas.

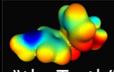
## JESUS IS THE TRUTH



2. John's Teaching

- The Gospels
  - Matthew – portrays Jesus as the Jewish Messiah
  - Mark – reveals Jesus as God's servant
  - Luke – stresses Christ's humanity
  - John – reveals Jesus as the eternal, pre-existing Son of God, or *Jesus as God* – [John 20:30-31](#)
- John – Jesus is God ([Jn. 1:1-2](#))
  1. "In the beginning..." – before time.
    - Different than [Genesis 1:1](#) and [1 John 1:1](#)
  2. "with God" – this is an affirmation of Christ's eternally separate personality.
    - Jesus is fully God, but in the unity of the Godhead there is diversity in Persons. ([Jn. 14:9](#) – "he who has seen me")
  3. "and the Word was God" – lit. "And God was the Word"
    - [Isaiah 6](#) (a "portrait" of the living and holy God to the Jew) and [John 12:41](#)

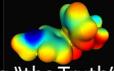
## JESUS IS THE TRUTH



3. Jesus own demonstration of being "the Truth"

1. By what he said
  - Of being the "I AM"
    - [Jn. 8:58,59](#) – "I am" ([Ex. 3:14](#))
    - [Jn. 6:35](#) – "I am the bread of life"
    - [Jn. 8:12; 9:5](#) – "I am the light of the world"
    - [Jn. 10:7; 9](#) – "I am the door"
    - [Jn. 10:11,14](#) – "I am the good shepherd"
    - [Jn. 11:25](#) – "I am the resurrection and the life"
    - [Jn. 14:6](#) – "I am the way, the truth, and the life"
    - [Jn. 15:1, 5](#) – "I am the true vine"
    - [Jn. 20:25-28](#) – "my Lord (*ADONAI*) and my God (*ELOHIM*)"
    - Notice that Jesus accepted this designation and did not deny it!

## JESUS IS THE TRUTH

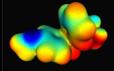


3. Jesus own demonstration of being "the Truth"

2. By what he did
  - Miracles.
    - Nature Miracles

	Matt	Mark	Luke	John
1. Stilling the Storm	8:23	4:35	8:22	
2. Feeding the 5000	14:13	6:30	9:10	6:1
3. Walking on the Water	14:25	6:48		6:19
4. Feeding the 4000	15:32	8:1		
5. Temple Tax in the Fish	17:24			
6. Withering the Fig Tree	21:18	11:12		
7. Draught of Fish		5:1		
8. Turning Water into Wine				2:1
9. Second Draught of Fish				21:1

## JESUS IS THE TRUTH

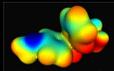


3. Jesus own demonstration of being "the Truth"

2. By what he did
  - Miracles.
 

	Matt	Mark	Luke	John
1. Cleansing of a Leper	8:2	1:40	5:12	
2. Healing a Centurion's Servant	8:5		7:1	
3. Healing Peter's Mother-in-law	8:14	1:30	4:38	
4. Healing the Sick at evening	8:16	1:32	4:40	
5. Healing a paralytic	9:2	2:3	5:18	
6. Healing the Hemorrhaging woman	9:20	5:25	8:43	
7. Healing Two Blind Men	9:27			
8. Healing a Man's Withered Hand	12:9	3:1	6:6	
9. Healing the Gentle Woman's Daughter	15:21	7:24		
10. Healing the Epileptic Boy	17:14	9:37	9:38	
11. Healing a Blind Men	20:30	10:46	18:35	
12. Healing a Deaf Mute		7:31		
13. Healing a Blind Man at Bethsaida		8:22		
14. Healing the Infirm, Bent Woman			13:11	
15. Healing the Man with Dropsy			14:1	
16. Cleansing the Ten Lepers			17:11	
17. Restoring a Servant's Ear			22:51	
18. Healing the Nobleman's Son (of fever)				4:46
19. Healing an Infirm Man at Bethesda				5:1
20. Healing the Man born blind				9:1

## JESUS IS THE TRUTH



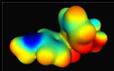
3. Jesus own demonstration of being "the Truth"

2. By what he did
  - Miracles
    - Casting out Demons
 

	Matt	Mark	Luke	John
1. Demons entering a herd of swine	8:28		5:1	8:26
2. Curing a Demon-possessed Mute		9:32		
3. Casting Out an Unclean Spirit			1:23	4:33
4. Curing a Demon-possessed, Blind and Mute man		12:22		11:14
    - Resurrections
 

	Matt	Mark	Luke	John
1. Raising the Ruler's Daughter	9:18,23	5:22,35	8:40,49	
2. Raising of a Widow's Son at Nain				7:11
3. Raising of Lazarus ( <a href="#">Jn. 11:43</a> )				
4. His own Resurrection. <a href="#">1 Cor. 15:12-19</a>				

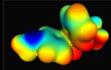
## JESUS IS THE TRUTH



4. Using "Jesus is God" as our "test"

1. [1 John 4:1-4](#) – "test the spirits"
  - "every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God"
  - Truth is like fire!
    - **JWs** – Jesus is not God. Before he lived on earth, he was Michael, the archangel.
    - **LDS** – Jesus is a separate god from the Father (Elohim). He was created as a spirit child by the Father and Mother in heaven, and is the "elder brother" off all men and spirit begins including Satan.
    - **TM** – Not uniquely God. He was a man who discovered his divine essence.
    - **Buddhism** – Not God, but an enlightened teacher.
    - **Scientology** – Jesus was not God, nor was he an "operating thetan" (in control of supernatural powers, cleared from mental defects)

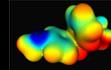
## JESUS IS THE TRUTH



### 4. Using "Jesus is God" as our "test"

1. **1 John 4:1-4** – "test the spirits"
  - "every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God"
  - **Wicca** – Jesus is either rejected altogether or sometimes considered a spiritual teacher teaching love and compassion.
  - **New Age** – Not God. He is a spiritual model and guru and is now an "ascended master."
  - **Islam** – Not God. He is one of the most respected of over 124,000 prophets sent by Allah. Jesus is not God, and God is not Jesus. He was not crucified.
  - **Judaism** – Not God. Jesus is seen either as an extremist false messiah or a good but martyred Jewish rabbi.
  - **Hinduism** – One of many sons of God. He is a teacher, a guru, or an avatar (an incarnation of Vishnu).

## JESUS IS THE TRUTH



1. Paul's Teaching
2. John's Teaching
3. Jesus own demonstration of being "the Truth"
  1. By what He said.
  2. By what he did
4. Using "Jesus is God" as our "test"
  - Matthew 16:13-15** – "But who do you say that I am?"
  - John 6:65-68** – "Lord, to whom shall we go?"