

GUARDING THE TRUTH Tom Kish - *Lake Country Bible Church*

The Christian today is being bombarded by messages, which are contrary to the Truth of Scripture. Whether it is the “Gospel of Oprah” or the top selling book, *The Secret* or the fact that 7 out of 10 people say there is no such thing as absolute truth, there is an assault on Truth. This seminar will discuss what the truth is about Jesus, the Gospel, and the Bible and how you can guard it in your life.

WHAT WILL YOU SWALLOW?

If something just LOOKS good- it good catch us into an eternity of Hell!

1. What IS the Gospel of Oprah?
 - A. It is NOT biblical Christianity. She acknowledges being brought up in Christianity but rejected it’s claim to exclusivity and has “grown” BEYOND it. Her “calling in life” is to share this good news to the whole world! And what is it that lay’s beyond??
 - B. The key is—discovering YOU ARE ALREADY DIVINE and need not repent, ask for forgiveness, follow creeds, It is SPECIFICALLY to NOT to HAVE TO BELIEVE ANYTHING- just “be and do” what you’re already divine side says! And hang on—if ANYONE asks you to BELIEVE/COMMITT to a belief system-ie: be born again—it shows US to be in the darkness- and you are NOT to embrace it—YIKES!

Summary;

- a. You are ALREADY divine
 - b. All paths lead to “GOD”/Light/Whatever
 - c. Jesus CANNOT be the only way! (U Tube- Oprah comments)
2. What is THE SECRET? (DVD and blockbuster book)
(OCCULTISM vs. The Secret) “Hidden info, secret info, higher plane)
 - A. “LAW OF ATTRACTION”
YOU create your own life
YOU (since YOU are already divine) attract health, wealth, happiness etc—or the opposite—depending on how you THINK AND SAY (Talk)-
“I feel lousy today/ I feel GREAT) about life-That is THE SECRET that many find!
Simply-
A .Ask
B. Believe &
C. Receive

Now SOME of you will see that these views have crept into Christianity through the Word/Faith movement, prosperity gospel, or Possibility thinking etc

AND WHAT WILL **YOU** SWALLOW??

Closely linked to these 2 topics is the “Course in Miracles” offered on Oprah’s XM radio show attracting 3 million listeners daily, and 800,000 signed up the first week to participate wherein you get a good dose of the aforementioned views in sort of a “daily devotional” format—Which some have listed the LARGEST WORSHIP GROUP IN THE WORLD! Eckhart Tolle, Rhonda Byrne, the late Helen Schucman, and Marianne Williamson are more names to Google

Summary;

- a. YOU CREATE your own reality- since you are divine
- b. These “Laws” ALWAYS work- like gravity
- c. Please don’t laugh!!-But what about Oprah’s weight problems? (& mine) Why can’t she find a long-lasting solution to such an “easy” problem? (This is HER self-described struggle, not me poking fun)

3. “7 of 10” reject Absolute Truth

A. Barna research quantified this. Only 42% of “evangelicals” and 27% of non-evangelicals believe in absolute moral truth

B. The 3 overarching views of Truth in history;

A. Pre-Modern(ism)

Absolute and Ultimate Truth exists, and “God” can help you find it.

Creation to 1800 AD = 5800 years

B. Modern(ism)- 1800AD to 1960AD (?)

Thomas Paine- Age of Reason 1794

Absolute and Ultimate Truth exists, but only through man’s reasoning can it be found.

Man is the measure.

Theological liberalism is birthed, and mainline denominations begin doubting the literal view of scripture.

C. Post-Modern(ism)- regarding religion- last decade and coming FAST

Amorphous views! (Always changing)

Absolute and Ultimate Truth either DOES NOT EXIST or IT IS

UNKNOWABLE-so let's talk about it (dialog)

Regarding religion; it is the height of arrogance and pride to proclaim man is a sinner, in need of a Savior, and only one way (Jesus) leads to God.

Now we are overwhelmed with The Emerging church, contemplative prayer, spiritual formation, metaphysics, prayer labyrinth, centering prayer,

The Silence, The Secret and bible teaching churches. And we need the ability to discern where Truth really resides in all these messages.

THE TRUTH

A. The True Bible

2 Tim 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

So that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
(NIV)

B. The True Jesus

Phil. 2:6-11

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

C. The True Gospel

John 10:30

"I and the Father are one."

John 14:6

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me".

Rom. 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom.10:9

That if you **confess** with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

The proof we have truly accepted Jesus is that we Live in the Truth—of the one True God, Jesus Christ, the One & ONLY way

1 John 5:18-20

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him.

We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true-- even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. AMEN!

Rom. 8:28-31

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Summay;

God SAVES

God sets us apart for Himself

God will bring us safely home to Himself

He alone GUARDS us—Let us now Live for HIM- obediently to His Truth

Resources;

www.lighthouse trails.com

The Truth War – Dr. John MacArthur

www.barna.org

Oprah Miracles and the New Earth- Erwin Lutzer, Moody Publishers

For Heresy-see DVD- The Secret www.THESECRET.tv

<http://www.livebyword.org/> good audio information to purchase for comparing the bible and the teaching of Oprah, and The Secret

WATCH WHAT YOU SWALLOW!!!