

Turning Truth to Delusion

Romans 1:20-28

Rejecting the One True God

Romans 1:24-25 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness.. who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator..

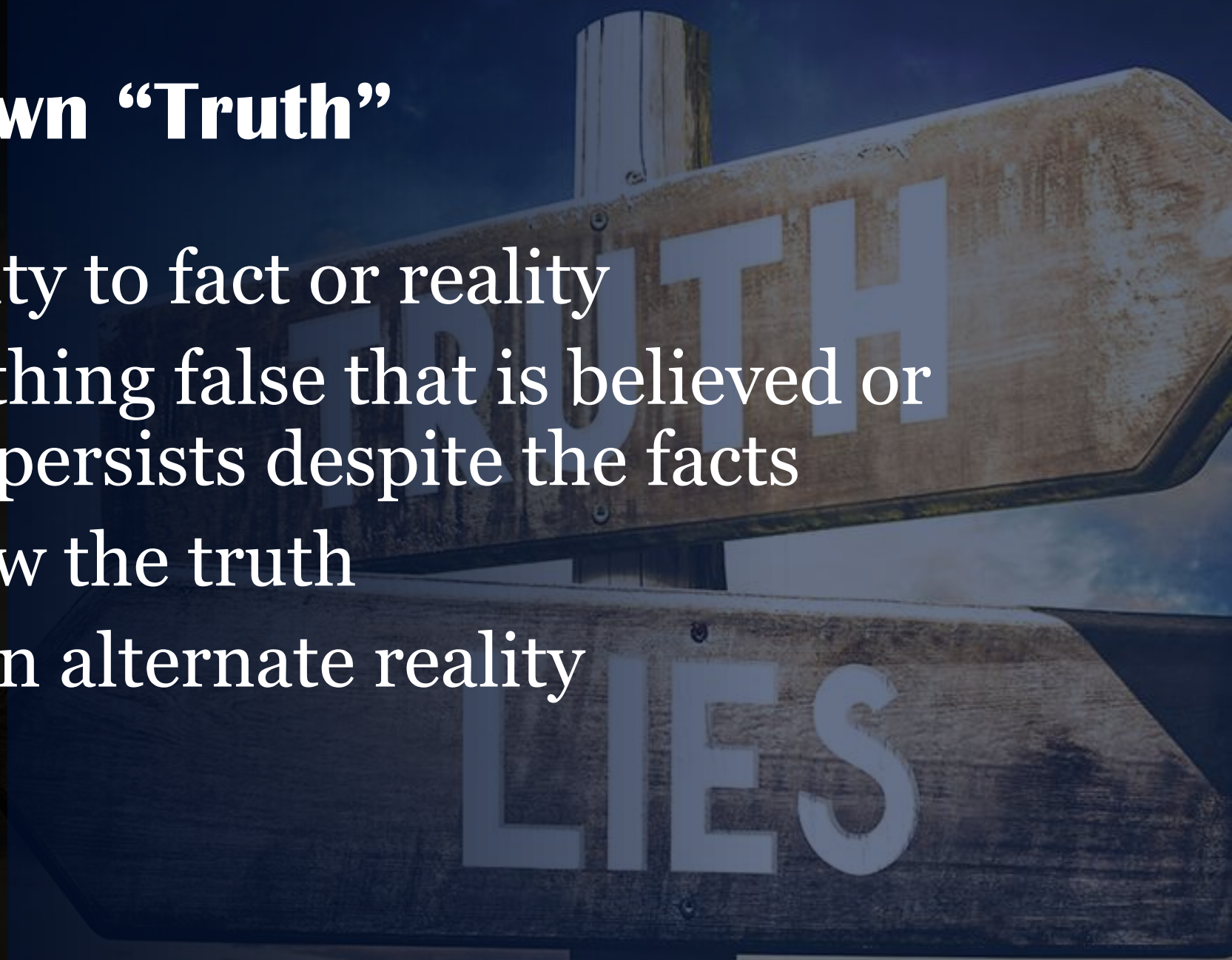
- The truth of God - God's truth for mankind
- The lie - that man can be independent of God, self-sufficient, self-directing, self-fulfilling

Choosing our own “Truth”

Truth – conformity to fact or reality

Delusion – something false that is believed or propagated, that persists despite the facts

- They once knew the truth
- They created an alternate reality



Living in a “Post-Truth” World

Post truth – denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief

- We recognize truth in the natural world (violating natural law brings immediate consequences)
- We can create our own inner truth (violating moral law we do not see immediate results)

The truth of God is manifest

Romans 1:18-20 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

The truth of God is revealed

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Revelation 1:18 *I am* He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

- Are there fixed standards of right and wrong that apply to everyone all places and all times?

Scripture warns against lies

The enemies of God have caused many to doubt truth

- Creation – Genesis 1
- Sexual revolution – 1 Cor 6:9-11
- Value of life – Gen 1:26-27
- Marriage – Gen 2:24-25
- Gender roles – male and female

Truth is being redefined

- Businesses
- Schools
- Media
- Entertainment
- Culture
- Government
- Churches



Society's opinion calling evil good

Isaiah 5:20-21 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

²¹ Woe to *those who are* wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!

24-25 Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

²⁵ Therefore the anger of the LORD is aroused against His people;

Consequences of choosing lies

Romans 1:24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

Truth is unchanging/eternal

John 8:31-34 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How *can* You say, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.

Truth must be defended

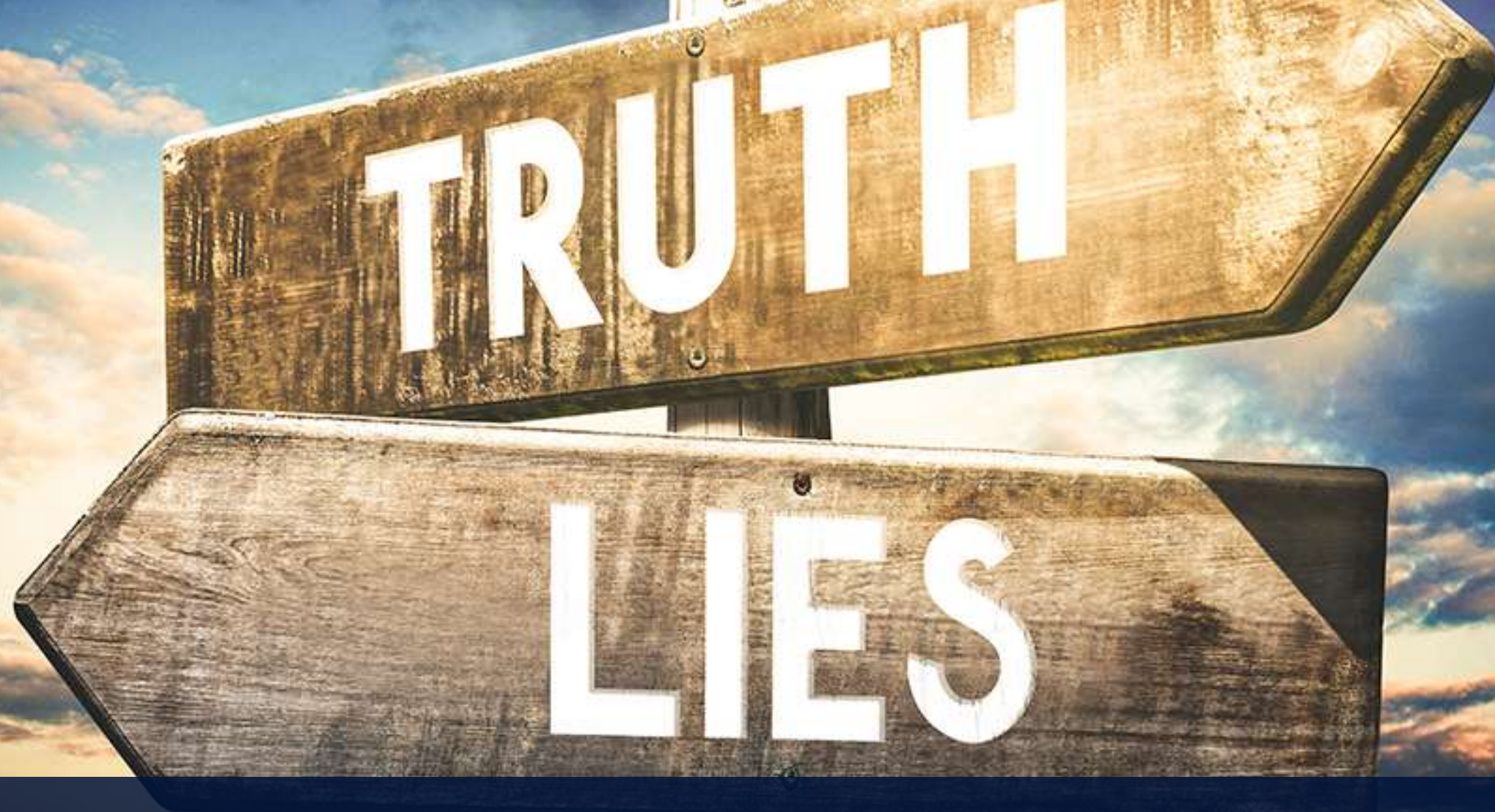
Psalm 25:4-6 Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You *are* the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day. ⁶ Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they *are* from of old.

10 All the paths of the LORD *are* mercy and truth,
To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

There is only one truth

1 Timothy 2:3-4 For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,



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