

The Reason for God

Belief in an Age of Skepticism

"Christianity Is A Straightjacket"

Galatians 2:4-16 (Pew Bible Page 823)

A secular world view: Christians believe they have the Absolute Truth and that everyone should believe as they believe. To impose your truth on others limits freedom. Everyone should be able to decide for him or herself what is true.

*"A simple man believes everything,
but a prudent man gives thoughts to his steps."*
Proverbs 14:15

TRUTH IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOU THINK

*"We did not give into them for a moment, so that
the Truth of the Gospel might remain with you."*
Galatians 2:5

Two cultural ideas

- To obey truth is to LOSE freedom
- The claim of "Truth" is an attempt at POWER AND CONTROL

Reality teaches

- Truth is NECESSARY for freedom
- Truth claims do not lead to oppression. It is what's INIT that can lead to limiting freedom.

"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

FREEDOM IS MORE COMPLEX THAN YOU THINK

*"They all agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the Jews. All they asked was that we
should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do."*
Galatians 2:9-10

Culture teaches that freedom is...

- Doing WHATEVER I WANT
- No RESTRAINTS OR DISCIPLINE

Reality teaches

- Freedom is the presence of the RIGHT restraints

- Love requires the SURRENDER of freedoms
- True freedom requires KNOWING TRUTH and SURRENDER

JESUS IS MORE LIBERATING THAN YOU THINK

"You shall know THE TRUTH, and THE TRUTH shall set you free."

John 8:32

Culture teaches freedom is finding YOUR OWN PURPOSE

Reality teaches: Freedom is DISCOVERING God's purpose

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:1

Word / Logos REASON, LOGIC, PURPOSE

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen...that our hands have touched..."

1 John 1:1

Truth is a PERSON not a set of SET OF RULES

Good News of the Gospel: God, in the person of Jesus Christ, limited His FREEDOM and ADJUSTED to love you.

Philippians 2