

Post-Truth

By Doy Moyer

Oxford has chosen "post-truth" as the word of the year. It's a term that "describes a situation in which feelings trump facts," and indicates "relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief." (Time). There is probably little difference between this and "postmodernism," which has the same effect. They also say that this word may be the "defining word of our time." I have little doubt this is... the truth.

In contrast, Christians are striving to live the truth in a post-truth era, recognizing that feelings need to be kept in check by truth. We need to realize how destructive the feeling-based decision-making process really is. When feelings win the day, trouble will follow.

Does this deny feelings? Not in the least. Feelings are part of who we are. But there is a difference between recognizing feelings for what they are and using those feelings to determine the reality for everything else.

Why? Because here is what we get when feelings rule the day in contrast to the wisdom of truth:

"A fool's anger is known at once,
But a prudent man conceals dishonor.
He who speaks truth tells what is right,
But a false witness, deceit.



There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise brings healing." (Prov. 12:16-18)

Lisa Carter (Luke's mother)	Jesse Godwin (Troy's father and Mac's grandfather)	Nell Holcomb (Ben's grandmother, Joannetta's aunt)	Louise Pack (Anna and Christopher's grandmother)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Bill Simmons (Jessica Anderson's gdad)
Madeline Morton (Greg Lanier's g'daughter)	Alexander Locke (Jeremiah's cousin's son)	Betty Bradford	Hazel Gilliland and Sherry Carroll (Toni's relatives)
Jean Buchanan (Abbie Harrison's grandmother)	Ermogene Laxson (Sara Lail's grandmother)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	William Smith (Ken Sullivan's brother)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Arabelle Rich (Joannetta's aunt)	Sasha Rozier (Makenzie Reynolds' cousin)	Eva Jean Cavender (Matt's grandmother)
Bonnie Rhodes Kirkley (Toni Herd's family)	Howard Vaughan (Mary Ann's Granddad)	Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd's Nephew)	James Palmer (Rachel Hobbgood's grandfather)

December Birthdays

- 2-Katelyn Sullivanne
- 5-Rusty Weldon
- 5-Charlie Johnson
- 5-Allie Hosey
- 5-Grace Green
- 8-Macy Johnson
- 9-Anna Acuff
- 9-Kayla Reid
- 9-Anna Cagle
- 11-Alex Nguyen
- 13-Dave Hosey
- 13-Will Bruce Harris
- 14-Beth Zeannah
- 15-Sabelis Moreno
- 17-Joseph Miller
- 18-Tin-Yau Tam
- 19-Chase Sanders
- 20-Chris Zeannah
- 20-Brandon Walker
- 20-Meredith Reid
- 20-Micah Waters
- 21-Holly Johnson
- 21-Andrew Dunaway
- 22-William Herd
- 22-Carter Burns
- 24-Jessica Yates
- 24-Dustin Marsh
- 27-Jacob Neeley
- 28-Turner Stephens
- 28-Gabby Borden
- 30-Douglas Bethea

News and Notes

- ☒ - Ruth Addison, grandmother of Julie Johnson and April Jerkins, continues to make progress and has moved to a facility close to home.
- ☒ - Hannah Morris' friend, Summer Storrs, lost her dad suddenly last week. Please pray for the family.
- ☒ - The Green's Christian friend, Matt Jones, is out of ICU and making progress after his dirt bike accident.
- ☒ - Please continue to pray for Chuck Hunt's dad, as he receives his chemo treatments.
- ☒ - Chuck Hahn's brother has pneumonia.
- ☒ - Tonight is singing night.
- ☒ - We are thankful that the Green's have been able to return to their house!
- ☒ - Please pray for our expectant mothers: Amanda Stephens, Brooke Perkins, Fallon Hartsell and Jenna Vaughn.
- ☒ - Please continue to pray for Terri Sams who is not doing well in her battle with cancer.
- ☒ - Please keep those in your prayers who are in the adoption process: Kevin and Jessica Anderson.

The Auburn Beacon



Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

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The Authority of the King



Thoughts to Ponder

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past ... has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made.
(Hebrews 1:1-2)

Elders
Walker Davis
(334) 703-0050
Larry Rouse
(334) 734-2133

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class9:30 AM
Worship10:20 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 PM
E-Mail:
larryrouse@aubeacon.com

Larry Rouse
Evangelist and Editor

Divine Authority and Christ

By Connie W. Adams

God, as creator, has ultimate authority over everything created. Paul said on Mars Hill that "God made heaven and earth and all things therein": and then concluded by saying "he has appointed a day in which he will judge the world" (Acts 17:24-31). When we say "God created" we must include Jesus Christ in that. "Let us make man" (Gen. 1:26) is in the plural. Elohim (God) is plural in form. "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him and without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:1-3). "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him" (Col. 1:16).

That "word" which was with God and was God, "became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). "Great is the mystery of godliness, God was manifest in the flesh" (1 Tim. 3:16). The greatest evidence for the existence of God is the fact that God came in the person of Jesus Christ. The historical Jesus can be explained on no other basis than the fact that he was divine, as he claimed to be. While he took upon himself the form of a serv-

No, my friends, Jesus Christ was Emmanuel - God with us. The creator condescended to live for awhile among the creatures. What he said will judge us in the last day, that day of judgment...

ant, he did not give up the qualities which made him deity. He was "Immanuel, God with us" (Matt 1:22-23). Two things are of note in that statement. (1) He was "with us." He dwelt, or tabernacled among men and they beheld his glory (John 1:14). In the flesh he was subjected to the experiences common to flesh. He "suffered in the flesh." But (2) he was God in the flesh. He did not cease being deity. He was at once the "Son of man" and the "Son of God."

The Promised Lawgiver

Peter said, "For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your

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brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people" (**Acts 3:22-23**).

Peter was quoting **Deuteronomy 18:18-19**. No wonder on the mount of transfiguration the voice of the Father sounded and said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (**Matt 17:5**). And no wonder that when the three apostles with him heard this "they fell on their face, and were sore afraid" (**v. 6**). In Christ, the lawgiver had come and the challenge went forth, "Hear him."

The Superior Spokesman

There is a progression in the book of Hebrews which begins in the first verse and reaches a climax in **12:25**. "God, who at sundry times and divers manners spake unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son" (**Heb. 1:1-2**). What a blessing that the God who formed the world has spoken. The natural world testifies to his "eternal power and Godhood" (**Rom. 1:20**), but without God speaking to man, he could not know what direction God wanted him to take. How did God speak? He spoke to the fathers in direct terms, in dreams and visions. He spoke to the Israelites through prophets. They were often referred to as "My servants the prophets." What a noble lot they were: Moses, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, and a number of lesser known men who faithfully spoke God's word to the people of their time. But great as these were, none was equal to God's spokesman in these last days.

Leaving the realm of human spokesmen and entering that of a heavenly sphere in which angels serve as divine messengers, even there, God's spokesman now is far above all of these. The law of Moses was given by the "disposition of angels" (**Acts 7:53**). It was "the word spoken by angels" (**Heb. 2:2**). Whether Michael, Gabriel, or unnamed heavenly messengers, all diminish in grandeur when placed beside God's spokesman for these last days. Never to an angel did the Father say "Thou art my Son, this day have I begot-

ten thee" (**1:5**). When he brought his Son into the world he said, "And let all the angels of God worship him" (**1:6**) It was the Father who said of the Son, "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever" (**1:8**). It was of the Son that the Father said that when the world is ready to be folded up like a garment, God's spokesman will remain the same. His years shall not fail (**1:10-12**). It is that same spokes-man who is now seated at the right hand of the Father (**1:13**). He has "all power in heaven and on earth" (**Matt 28:18**).

No wonder the warning is sounded about giving heed to what he said and not drifting away from it (**2:1-4**). Then in **chapter 12:25**, the climaxing appeal is made: "See that ye refuse not him that speaketh." "God has spoken in his son." Don't refuse what he said! Such refusal comes at the peril of the soul. Jesus said, "Except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (**John 8:24**). The Confirmed Word Jesus said "If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not" (**John 10:37**). John said of the miracles of Christ which he recorded, "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (**John 20:31**). On Pentecost, Peter preached, "Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs" (**Acts 2:22**).

It is not enough to declare Jesus Christ a good man, an able teacher, a noble philosopher. If he was not the Son of God, not the word made flesh, then he was a false prophet for he claimed all that and more. Good, noble teachers do not practice deception. Any philosophy built on deception and fraud is useless. No, my friends, Jesus Christ was Emmanuel - God with us. The creator condescended to live for awhile among the creatures. What he said will judge us in the last day, that day of judgment to which Paul referred in Athens and to which he connected the thought that "God made the heavens and earth and all things therein."

"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (**John 12:48**). You cannot refuse Christ and his word and still honor the creator of everything.

Guardian of Truth—April 18, 1996



About Christians' feeling unworthy and undone ...

By Edward O. Bragwell, Sr.

The rash of going out of the way, by some super-spiritual elitists, to emphasize how worthless and undone they still feel after they have been made new creatures in Christ, is possibly rooted in Calvinistic concepts – especially the doctrine of the imputed righteousness of Christ. This doctrine allows one to still be a worthless sinner

while God graciously imputes the righteous life of Christ to his account. While the man himself is still a vile sinner, God does not judge him so because He only sees the righteousness of Christ which He has spread over the filthy sinner – leaving him a sinner under the cover of Christ's righteousness. Thus it is supposed to be a sign of great humility to magnify how unworthy and undone one feels.

In fact, it is a slam on God's workmanship in making us over by the power of the Gospel. Before Christ came into our lives we were nobodies ("not a people"), but he has made us into somebodies (people of God). (**See 1 Peter 2:10**) We are not self-made but God-made. We were the servants of sin but he has made us into the servant of righteousness. It is neither arrogant nor self-righteous to point out what we are after God's make-over. We are new creatures. There is no need to retain a sack cloth and ashes breast beating mentality but lift up our eyes in thankful

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recognition of what we have become by the power of God. We should even urge others to become such as we are (**cf. Acts 26:29**). When it comes to Christians the operative is WERE when it comes to being worthless sinners (**cf. Rom. 5:8, 19**).

In just a few verses we see what we have become by the power if

God:

1. Living stones in God's spiritual house.
2. A holy and royal priesthood.
3. A chosen generation.
4. A holy nation.
5. A peculiar people (His own special people - NKJV)
6. Kings and priests.
7. Worthy (**1 Pet. 1:5,9; Rev. 1:6; 3:4**)

Praise be to God for what he has made us to be!

Yes, even the most faithful Christians still sin at times, but they do not make it their practice and they correct it as they go rather than wallowing in it (**1 John 1:7-10**).

I prefer to praise God for what he has made me into, rather than glorying in my humility.

