
**A Christian Philosophy
Of Learning:
The Starting Point for Truth
(part 2)**

March - May 2002
CRPC Adult Sunday School
C. Michael Holloway
Class #4

<http://www.logicteacher.com/pol/>

Review of Previous Weeks

- P We're seeking a biblically sound, comprehensive way of thinking about acquiring and applying truth
- P V^2_1 : A wise person will continually seek to acquire and apply truth for the glory of God. An unwise person will not.
- P V^2_2 : Truth consists of all the propositions that God affirms.
- P V^2_3 : A truth is still a truth, even if you do not believe it is true, or if you do not know whether it is true, or if God has not chosen to reveal that it is true.

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P We want to know the answer at a personal level:

- ▶ What is the starting point from which **I** can begin to acquire and apply truth?

Matthew 16:13-17

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He began asking His disciples, saying, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”

Jesus & Peter

P For what did Jesus pronounce Peter blessed?

- ▶ For affirming a proposition about Him

P What was the proposition that Peter affirmed?

- ▶ Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

P What was not the origin of Peter's ability to affirm this proposition?

- ▶ Flesh & blood (that is, natural means)

P What was the origin of Peter's ability to affirm this proposition?

- ▶ The Father Himself

Implications for Us?

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By itself, the only implication
this passage has for us is to
suggest
that
perhaps
the origin of our ability to affirm
that Jesus is the Messiah
might
come from the Father,
and not from natural means.

Peter & Us

P Other Scripture passages tell us that we are like Peter

- ▶ Matthew 11:25-27
- ▶ Psalm 119:18
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- ▶ John 6:25-51
- ▶ ...

P Knowledge of the truth about Jesus does not come by natural means, but by a divine and supernatural light.

Valuable Verity (V^2_4)

**The starting point
for acquiring and applying truth
is regeneration.**

Q²₃: Anselm

**I do not seek to understand
that I may believe,
but I believe
in order to understand.
For this also I believe —
that unless I believed,
I should not understand**

Synopsis of Class: Where We Are



P Fruits

- ▶ What are some specific examples of acquiring and applying truth?

P Branches

- ▶ How do we acquire and apply new truth?

P Roots

- ✓▶ What is truth? What is the starting point for truth?
- ✓▶ Are there varieties of truth? **No**
- ✓▶ How much truth can we acquire and apply? **More**

Valuable Verity (V^2_5)

**No person ever reaches a point
where he should stop
acquiring and applying truth.**

Next² Week

- P There is no class next week.
- P Two weeks from now we'll move to the branches of the tree, and start talking about how to acquire and apply new truth.
- P Quote ID challenge #2: Who said, "If a picture is worth a thousand words, then why did God give us His Word, instead of His drawings?"
 - ▶ Hint 1: Google will not be sufficient.
 - ▶ Hint 2: It isn't any one who has been the answer to a previous ID challenge.