

## How Prevalent is Original Sin in Today's World, and Why Should I Care?

Humanity continues to exhibit a profound tendency to narcissistically adhere to lies. Lies that are much like a pressure release valve utilizing constructivist truth theory, the mastery of using cultural, social and personal context to construct “their truth.” This is a blatant example of original sin, society sorting though good and evil forming “their truth” instead of submitting to our eternal God’s exclusive ability to give life.

**Genesis 3:4** “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. **3:5** “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

At the 2018 Golden Globe Awards, Oprah Winfrey famously said,

*“What I know for sure is  
that speaking **your truth**  
is the most powerful tool  
we all have.”*

**Your truth**, held as a worldview undermines the idea of shared common facts.

**Example:** If your truth is truth, anyone who doesn't hold that truth must be wrong.

This sounds a lot like narcissism and it's intellectual bullying,  
**believe my truth, or else**, this is not exactly a positive pro truth message.

This worldview logically suggest that “Truth” is relative and best defined by personal, cultural, and social context. Truth can't be relative. If it is relative, it's not truth.

**To say there is no truth for all people is to declare a truth for all people.**



In effect, you're saying **it's true that there is no truth**, and to declare that both your and my opinions are true, even if they contradict one another is to speak nonsense.

Truth is not an opinion or preference, It's not subjective or relative, It is inescapable because reality is inescapable. No amount of double talk will change that, and that's **the truth**.

## Romans 12:2

**"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is —His good, pleasing and perfect will."**

In the 1980 introduction of the television series called **Cosmos** that was hosted by: **Carl Sagan**.

Sagan made the assertion that:

*"The cosmos as we examine it now,  
is all that there is,  
all that there ever was and  
all that there ever will be."*

This secular worldview asserts that there is nothing but the here and now, there was nothing before the "Big Bang" and there will be nothing after.

Nothing leads to - no truth and no purpose.

Secular worldview = life is meaningless.

## The Eternal God

1. John 8:58 Jesus says, "Before Abraham was born, I am!" This statement indicates that Jesus existed before Abraham, who lived many centuries before Jesus' birth.

2. John 1:1-14 These verses describe Jesus as the Word (Logos) and state, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." It goes on to say, "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." This is understood to mean that Jesus existed with God from the beginning and then became a human being.

3. John 17:5 In a prayer, Jesus says, "And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began." This implies his existence before the creation of the world.

**Jesus claimed to have a divine,  
pre-existent nature, existing before his human incarnation.**

Christianity clearly gives a more logical explanation of our origin and reality.  
Today's secular scientist and philosophers leave us with little hope  
and major gaps in logic.

## **Honesty and Integrity**

1. John 8:32 "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
2. Ephesians 4:25 "Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body."
3. Proverbs 12:22 "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight."
4. 3 John 1:4 "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." This reflects the joy and importance placed on living a life in truth.
5. Psalm 51:6 "Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart."
6. Zechariah 8:16 "These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace."

## **The Exclusive Nature of Truth**

One of the fundamental characteristics of truth is its exclusivity. It is important to understand how, by definition, truth inherently excludes falsehood and why this is significant in our understanding of the world.

To understand why truth is exclusive, we must first define what truth is. In simple terms, truth is a statement or belief that accurately reflects reality or fact. It is not just a matter of opinion or perspective; rather, it is an objective measure of what is consistent within our reality.

The exclusivity of truth lies in its binary nature – a statement is either true or false, it cannot be both. This is known as the Law of Non-Contradiction in classical logic. For instance, if the statement "It is raining" is true, then the statement "It is not raining" must be false, given the same time and place. This exclusivity is what allows us to categorize knowledge and dismiss falsehoods.

In everyday life, the exclusivity of truth is crucial for effective communication and decision-making. When people exchange information, they rely on the assumption that what they are saying is true and not simultaneously false.

In contemporary discourse, the notion of truth's exclusivity faces challenges. The rise of relativism – the idea that truth can vary based on context, perspective, or culture – seems to contradict the idea of truth being exclusive. However, even within relativistic frameworks, the principle that a statement cannot be both true and false in the same context still applies.

Truth, by its very definition, is exclusive. It separates fact from fiction, reality from illusion. This exclusivity is not just a philosophical concept but a practical tool that guides our understanding of the world and our actions within it.

## Jesus the Truth

1. John 14:6 Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." This is one of the most direct statements asserting the exclusivity of salvation through Christ.
2. Acts 4:12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." This verse explicitly states that salvation is only through Jesus Christ.
3. 1 Timothy 2:5 "For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus." This emphasizes the role of Jesus as the sole propitiation between humanity and God.
4. Ephesians 2:8-9 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."
5. **Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."**

### The Exclusivity of Truth as Reflected in Matthew 7:13-14\*\*

Matthew 7:13-14 is not only a profound commentary on the nature of truth and morality. It correlates with the concept of the exclusivity of truth, illustrating that the path to genuine truth is narrow, less traveled, and often more demanding. This passage encourages introspection and commitment to a life of integrity and truth, highlighting the rewards and consequences of our moral choices. In a world brimming with diverse paths and choices, this scripture remains a timeless reminder of the value and necessity of seeking and adhering to the truth.

## **Christ's Influence on the Declaration of Independence**

The Declaration of Independence, proclaimed on July 4, 1776, is a landmark document in the history of the United States. While the document is fundamentally political, the influence of Christian thought and principles is evident in its crafting.

Many of the founding fathers who drafted the Declaration of Independence were influenced by Christian beliefs and principles. This is evident in their approach to concepts such as liberty, justice, and human dignity.

The Declaration's famous assertion that "all men are created equal" and are endowed with "certain unalienable Rights" reflects a Christian understanding of the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, a concept deeply rooted in the Christian belief of humans being created in the image of God. This theological viewpoint provided a moral grounding for arguing against the tyranny and unjust rule of the British Crown.

The Declaration of Independence references a "firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence." This reflects the Christian belief in a sovereign God who oversees and guides human affairs. The appeal to divine Providence in the pursuit of liberty and justice underscores the founding fathers' belief in a higher moral order that legitimizes their cause.

The colonists saw their struggle as not just a political fight but as a stand against tyranny and oppression, which they viewed as morally wrong based on Christian teachings. This moral conviction strengthened their resolve and provided a unifying cause that went beyond mere political expediency.

Christianity played a pivotal role in shaping the Declaration of Independence. The document reflects the Christian worldview of the founding fathers, particularly in its moral and philosophical underpinnings. The principles of equality, rights, and divine providence, rooted in Christian theology, not only influenced the rationale for American independence but also laid the foundation for the nation's future legal and cultural development. The Declaration stands as a testament to the profound impact of Christianity on the birth of a nation.