

## **The War Against Absolutes**

In the seventies, a popular saying was “If it feels good, do it.” Today we hear it expressed in sentiments like: “What’s truth for you may not be truth for me.” This mentality has so thoroughly saturated our culture that our utmost value as a nation is tolerance. Tolerance, today, does not merely mean that you accept another person for who they are; no, you must affirm and endorse their values and behaviors as well.

If Jesus’ teachings were to be judged by today’s standards, He would be found to be one of the most intolerant, politically incorrect, fundamentalist extremist nutcases that ever walked the face of the earth. Why? Because He was dogmatic and subscribed to the idea that there are absolute standards of right and wrong.

Jesus rejected relativism. In Matthew 7:13-14, He stated, “One can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for many choose the easy way. But the gateway to life is small, and

the road is narrow, and only a few ever find it.” Many resent the fact that the New Testament has only ONE plan of salvation—Acts 2:38; they want a multi-plan salvation (just as they resent the fact that there is ONE and ONE ONLY, Living God—Jesus Christ).

In other words, all belief systems are not equally valid. As far as Jesus was concerned, there was only one way to find life—His Way. Every other path, every other religion or philosophy, or belief system leads to destruction. Few find the way to real life.

If there is no absolute moral standard, then one cannot say, in a final sense, that anything is right or wrong. By absolute, we mean that which always applies to all people, which provides a final or ultimate standard. There must be an absolute if there are to be morals, and there must be an absolute if there are to be real values. If there is no absolute beyond man’s ideas, then there is no final appeal to judge between individuals and groups whose moral judgments conflict. We are merely left with conflicting opinions.

Buying into the idea of no absolutes opens a Pandora's box of stupidity in our lives. Without moral anchors, we drift over the waterfalls of sanity.

In a world that regards all values, beliefs, lifestyles, and truth claims as equally valid — there can be only one universal virtue: tolerance. And, if tolerance is the cardinal virtue, the sole absolute, then there can be only one evil: intolerance.

And that is exactly the attitude we see among the proponents of the new tolerance. This is a fascinating and horrific side of tolerance. The enemy becomes people who hold strong values and convictions. Strong faith is fanaticism. What used to be viewed as virtues are now condemned as vices.

Once there are no absolutes, then our feelings become our guide and our god. Feelings are great followers but poor leaders. If we're led by our feelings, we'll never do anything that is painful or requires sacrifice. Feelings become more than your guide; they eventually become our god. Rather than uphold God's standards,

which are clearly spelled out in the Bible, we opt for going on intuition and feeling.

We have to internalize God's absolute truths to live righteously.

The Choice: Stand for Truth or fall for anything.

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