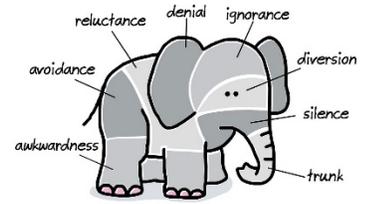


THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

- o a major problem or controversial issue that is obviously present but avoided as a subject for discussion because it is more comfortable to do so.

PARTS OF THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM



SOME TRUTHS ABOUT THE CHURCH

- The church is to be a place of _____ truth.
- The church is full of _____ company.
- The world is loud with what they believe, and the church doesn't always _____ its place.
- Many Christians are not prepared for the battle of standing in the truth _____.

IN ORDER FOR THE TRUTH TO BE THE TRUTH...

- The truth has to be separate from _____ and _____.
- The truth has to not _____.

SO, WE LOOK TO THE BIBLE BECAUSE...

- The Bible is historically and archaeologically _____.
- The Bible has been accurately _____.
- The Bible contains many _____ accounts.
- God _____ a Book.

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD - ACTS 17:22-24

22. So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious.
23. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.
24. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,
25. nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.
26. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,
27. that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,
28. for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.'

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD cont. - ACTS 17:22-24

29. Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.
 30. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,
 31. because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."
 32. Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this."
 33. So Paul went out from their midst.
 34. But some men joined him and believed...
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THE FOUR BIG QUESTIONS:

1. **ORIGIN** - Where did I come _____?
2. **MEANING** - _____ am I here?
3. **MORALS** - How _____ I live?
4. **DESTINY** - Where am I _____?

1. **ORIGIN**

There is a Designer and a _____.

Acts 17:24 & 26 ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it ... made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth...

2. **MEANING**

There is meaning and purpose to life and _____.

Acts 17:27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him.

3. **MORALS**

God gave you _____. (See Romans 2:14-15)

Acts 17:24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth...

4. **DESTINY**

God offers us the best _____ plan of all!!!

Acts 17:32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this."

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

- **KNOW** the truth by taking in God's Word regularly.
- **FEEL** the tension of the world's "truth" versus God's truth.
- **DO** press into difficult conversations with grace and truth.

NEXT WEEK: The Elephant in the Room (Week 2): Gender and Sexuality with Sean McDowell

RESOURCES:

Core 52: A Fifteen-Minute Daily Guide to Build Your Bible IQ in a Year by Mark E. Moore

Cold-Case Christianity by J. Warner Wallace

Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed video with Ben Stiner

Finding Truth by Francis Chan

Gotquestions.org

The Grace and Truth Paradox by Randy Alcorn

100 Bible Verses Everyone Should Know by Heart by Robert J. Morgan