



DEFINITIONS

I. BIBLE TERMS

Biblical truths -- Unchanging truths found within the Bible. Aka Biblical Convictions

Conscience -- An inner sense of what is right or wrong in one's conduct or motives, impelling one toward right action. The human conscience is not always supportive of biblical truth.

Inner man -- The part of man's triune being which connects with God

Legalism -- A strict, excessive adherence to a set of laws or to a religious code.

Kosher -- A Jewish term referring to food which is "fit to eat." Lev. 11:3, 18:4 and Deut. 14:6, 8-10 defines the two types of kosher animals which were determined to be clean:

- Lev. 11:3 -- Animals must chew their cud and have split hooves such as *cattle, sheep, goats, deer and bison*.
Forbidden meats -- camel, rock badger, hare, pig
- Lev. 11:9 -- Seafood that have both fins and scales such as *tuna, carp, salmon and herring*.
Forbidden seafoods are lobster, oysters, shrimp, clams and crab
- Lev. 11:13-19 -- Fowl -- Kosher = *chicken, geese, ducks and turkey*
Not Kosher = 24 birds of prey or scavengers

Gray areas -- Issues not directly addressed in the Bible and referred to Romans 14:1 as disputable matters. The contrast would be matters which the Bible is explicitly "black & white" clear, leaving no room or need for discussion.

Proving Process -- Relational examination of the evidence so a Christian can prove the will of God.
Eph. 5:10, I Th. 5:21, Rom. 12:2, Ph. 1:10

The "World" -- Ideas, philosophies and general thought patterns that contradict God's Word. *II Cor. 10:4*

II. MORAL TERMS

Convictions -- Strong beliefs that one is fully convinced of, having been persuaded by evidence or reason and not merely subjective feelings.

Personal convictions -- A strong belief which you have accepted to guide your personal life.

Standards -- Ideas about morally correct and acceptable behavior that are often used to make judgments about the quality of other things.

III. SECULAR TERMS

Psychology - the study of the mind

Social Psychology - the study of human behavior on the individual level

Sociology - the study of human behavior on the group level

Philosophy - the study to understand the mysteries of existence and reality

Culture - the characteristics, beliefs, customs and attitudes of a particular group of people which distinguishes them from others

Libertine -- A free thinker, especially in religious matters. For example, *"If I'm free in Christ and the Bible doesn't specifically mention it, I can do what I want."*

Humanism -- An outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine matters, stressing the potential value, and goodness of humanity.

Situational Ethics -- The decisions and determinations of whatever is right or wrong is relative to the situation. ie, Euthanasia, which is medically assisted suicide

Politically Correct -- the idea that people should be careful to avoid any language or behavior that might offend a particular group of people.

Millennials -- The demographic cohort given to those born from the early 1980's to the early 2000's; Also known as "Generation Y."

IV. CONTRASTING TERMS

Secular worldview -- Relating to the world with the objective of man's achievements and personal fulfillment.

Biblical worldview -- The way a Christian individual, group or culture interprets the world and interacts with it.

Subjective -- Based on feelings or opinions rather than facts; relating to the way a person experiences things in his or her own mind. *Example: It feels so good, it must be right.*

Objective -- Based on facts rather than feelings or opinions; existing outside of the mind, in the real world. *Example: 1 + 1 = 2, JFK was assassinated in 1963, snow is white.*

Relative truth -- Truth that is true at only one time and at one place and always subject to change.

Absolute truth -- Whatever is true at one time and at one place is true at all times and at all places. What is true for one person is true for all persons. *Example: God's Word is inspired.*

Tolerance -- The ability or willingness to endure something, in particular the existence of opinions or behavior that one does not necessarily agree with. *Rom. 15:7*

The "New" Tolerance -- All values, beliefs, lifestyles and truths are equally valid, so whatever each individual believes is equally right or valid.