

# KIRBSTONES

## ALONG THE NARROW WAY

**curb-stone** (kürb'stön') - *noun* - one of the stones or a range of stones forming a curb, as along a sidewalk or roadway. Historically, the curbstones were placed vertically along the edges of the roadbed and the paving material was backfilled against the row of curbstones. The curbstones served <sup>(1)</sup>to hold the material in the roadbed, <sup>(2)</sup>to prevent the scattering of the material along the edges, and <sup>(3)</sup>to define the road itself from all the adjoining areas.

<sup>13</sup> "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT.  
<sup>14</sup> BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT." - MATTHEW 7:13-14 - NIV

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**W**hat is truth? How do we define truth? What matters most when we accept any information that is held to be the truth? Where do we go to find *current truth* or *historical truth*? What are our main sources for truth in the twenty-first century? Why does it matter?

Truth has historically been defined as “a verified or indisputable fact or as in conformity with fact or reality.” Truth is also said to be “a fundamental reality apart from a perceived experience.”

While there does not seem to be room for interpretation in these definitions of truth, our world seems to be out of touch with truth. Humanity seems to have difficulty not only expressing what is true, but people cannot agree on what is true. If truth is *indisputable*, why do we have so much trouble with it? Why do we assume we can dispute the truth?

If truth is *reality* why do we interpret it to fit our needs? Why do we insist that one person's reality may not be another person's reality? It seems that we are always on a *journey* or *quest* for the truth?

If we were traveling on QUEST RR to our destination—*our station labeled TRUTH*—we would expect it to be in the same location *three hours* away and to be open and operational each time we traveled there. However, on our second trip we bought a ticket, boarded, rode for *one hour*, and arrived at the station labeled TRUTH. Some of the folks traveling to TRUTH were a little perplexed, while others were outraged! In preparation for our third trip we bought a ticket on QUEST RR to travel to TRUTH. We boarded the train, rode *five hours*, and arrived at TRUTH station.

Who is responsible this? Why is our journey to TRUTH so unpredictable? Is QUEST RR at fault? Is there any way for us to predict how long it will take for us to travel before we arrive at TRUTH, or where TRUTH will be the next time we need to travel there? How can we know for sure that we are traveling to TRUTH, and how will we know when we arrive?

***28 Therefore say to them, 'This is the nation that has not obeyed the LORD its God or responded to correction.***

***'Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips.'***

***Jeremiah 7:28 — NIV***

Our schools have historically taught that we should examine all sources when we are conducting research. It is essential for us to learn the origin of the what we consume as reality. How can we be sure when we have arrived at the truth?

Whether we get news from media that is considered old line and to be trusted, or whether we learn what is going on in the world from one of the newer sources, we should check for reliability. Fact check.

Which media sources report openly and honestly without their editor's, owner's, or publisher's preferred agenda driving the decisions to carry or pass on news?

We determined earlier that we are on a *journey* or *quest* for the truth? Media, like trains, may or may not get us there, and media, both old line and new, have the strength to move TRUTH. It might not be in the same place each time, and it may be altered to the point that we do not recognize it.

What source is trustworthy? What can we stand on for accurate information? What source is reliable yesterday, today, and tomorrow? What can we trust with our lives for the substantiation we need to explain questions of life? (1) Where did we come from? (2) Who is God? (3) What do we need to know to be assured of eternal life?

The simple answer to these questions and others is biblical knowledge. The Bible is to be trusted, but, as with many other powerful tools, we will have the responsibility to use it properly. And, once we have opened the Bible, studied it, and learned some of its principles, we become responsible for communicating its TRUTH to others.

While the journey or quest for TRUTH has its twists and turns, once we arrive at the destination, we can accept it as fact. We can stand on it!

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