

I was doing some research on a sermon last week and I came across this quote: *“As one atheist put it, “I have always felt that when I die, I am dead and gone, my conscious life will end, my interactions with others will end, and I will be simply gone. I don’t know what causes consciousness (call it spirit, call it soul, I don’t mean to pick sides with my words), but I expect that it will end. My afterlife will be in the memories of those I knew, those who loved me, those who carry me on in their hearts. I, myself, cease to exist.”* As I read further, the author continued by saying that death for an atheist is a peaceful thing. And as I considered that above quote and that statement about death being peaceful, I just shook my head, not out of frustration or anger or anything of the sort, but confusion and sadness. I could not image going through life knowing that when I die, I will simply no longer be. I am not sure how that is peaceful; knowing that you will be nothing more than a memory, a memory that will eventually be gone when those loved ones die.

Now, do not get me wrong here. I am not suggesting that I am Christian because I do not like the alternative. I am a Christian because God has revealed the truth to me in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. I believe that I am a sinner and that Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins and rose from the grave in order that I could have eternal life. I am not a Christian because I want to live forever as opposed to not existing at all. I am a Christian because it is true.

But now, I am reflecting on the word that I just used to end my previous paragraph, “true”. An atheist could very easily say, *“Well, your truth is not my truth. What if my truth is right and yours is wrong.”* To which one could counter, *“True enough, but what if your truth is wrong and mine is right?”*. And then the argument ensues. It is no wonder that opponents of Christianity are so passionate. They are dealing with people who claim the Truth to be their truth, when it is God’s Truth.

I say all of this because MY truth did not save me but rather God’s Truth in Jesus Christ. When you throw around your truth, you lose all authority, but when you speak the truth of God, then God is the one who will do what He does and when He does it. I do not want people going through life thinking there is nothing after death. Rather, I want people to know THE Truth - Jesus. And so, I speak the Truth; speaking Life and (trying to) show love. If they argue, I just speak

God's truth, and leave the results up to God. Truth is truth, whether you believe it or not. To God be all glory, in Jesus' name, Amen.