

# What does it take to Stand for the Truth?

## Matthew 14:1-12

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### Luke 3:19-20 ESV

**19** But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done,

John the Baptist spoke out against not just a single choice of divorce and remarriage, but confronted a lifestyle of immorality and debauchery in the household of Herod. He demonstrated the courage to confront evil and stand for the truth. His strength provokes in us the question, "What does it take to stand for truth?" And, what are the critical moral and truth issues of our day?

## What does it take to Stand for Truth?

### I. Clarity

#### 2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

**16** All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

**17** that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

#### Acts 17:24-25 ESV

**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.

*My conclusion is that absolute truth and morality are fast receding in society because their grounding in God as objective, as outside of our self, as our transcendent point of reference, is disappearing. There is nothing outside the individual that stands over against the individual, that remains as the measure for the individual's actions, the standard for what is right and wrong, or as the test of what is true and what is not.*

David Wells

**Clarity comes only from a fixed point outside ourselves and that point is God.**

## **II. Conviction**

### **Hebrews 4:12 ESV**

**12** For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

### **Romans 1:18ff**

**Conviction comes from the Word of God.**

## **III. Compassion**

**Compassion demonstrates conviction and provides clarity for others.**

**Others cannot respond to the good news of the gospel until they accept the bad news.**

## **IV. Courage**