

Sermon Series: Truth Be Told  
Text: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:4  
Delivered: November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
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## Who Says?

***Big Idea: One of the fundamental aspects of lives is  
Who or What we trust as our Final Authority.***

“All religion rests on authority. In fact, every academic discipline and every sphere of human inquiry rests on authority. Whether we realize it or not, we all give someone or something the last word – our parents, our culture, our community, our feelings, the government, peer-reviewed journals, opinion polls, impressions, or a holy book. We all have someone or something that we turn to as the final arbiter of truth claims.” -Kevin DeYoung

**The Faulty Authority: Trusting in \_\_\_\_\_ as the Final Authority will let us down. (2 Timothy 4:3-4)**

1. Our hearts are \_\_\_\_\_. (Exodus 7-14)
2. Our hearts are \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 1:18-21)
3. Our hearts are \_\_\_\_\_. (Jeremiah 17:9)
4. Our hearts are \_\_\_\_\_. (Ecclesiastes 9:3; Matthew 15:19)

**The Sturdy Authority: \_\_\_\_\_ is our Sure and Final authority. (2 Timothy 3:16)**

1. The Bible \_\_\_\_\_ to be the Word of God. (2 Peter 1:20-21; Hebrews 1:1-2; etc)
2. The Bible \_\_\_\_\_ itself to be the Word do God.
3. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ to the Truth that the Bible is the Word of God. (2 Corinthians 4:3-6)

**Implications: IF the Bible is our Sure and Final Authority, THEN... (2 Timothy 3:15-17)**

1. We should \_\_\_\_\_ under the Bible rather than \_\_\_\_\_ over it.
2. The Bible should be a steady source of \_\_\_\_\_ in our Lives.
3. We should \_\_\_\_\_ all other authorities by the Bible.
4. We should \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible.
5. We should trust the Bible over our \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ that God Loves You and Wants You to Know Him.

*Come up with a list of authorities other than the Bible we might use to decide what is true or false and right or wrong. Are these authorities necessarily bad or always wrong? Why are they not sufficient to be our Final Authority?*

*Read again 2 Timothy 4:3-4. Can you think of specific examples of how we might do this today?*

*Is “following your heart” always a bad thing to do? Why or why not? Can you think of times in your own life where you have “followed your heart” in some way and it didn’t go well?*

*Can you think of examples in your own life of how you have seen your heart to be fickle, biased, deceitful, or depraved?*



What are ways that you might help to train your kids (or grandkids) that following your heart is not the best way to live?

If someone asked you, “How do you know the Bible is True?” or “How do you know the Bible is God’s Word”? How would you respond? What evidence for the truth of the Bible is most compelling to you?

How have you experienced God speaking through His Word in your own life? (What are the ways that God has used the Bible to shape you or change you)?

What are the things the Bible teaches that are most difficult for you to believe or obey? What is your typical response when you come across something in the Bible that may offend you or convict you?

What are some of the things you may “feel” throughout a normal week that are not in line with the truth the Bible teaches? What are ways you try to speak the truth to your feelings in those moments?

What are ways in your life that you practically seek to treasure and cherish God’s Words to you?

#### Further Resources

- [8 Things Your Bible Says About Itself – Matt Smethurst](#)
- [The Watershed Issue in Every Generation – John Piper](#)
- [The Self-Attestation and Internal Witness of The Holy Spirit – J.V. Fesko](#)
- [Unleash the Lion of Scripture – Michael Kruger](#)