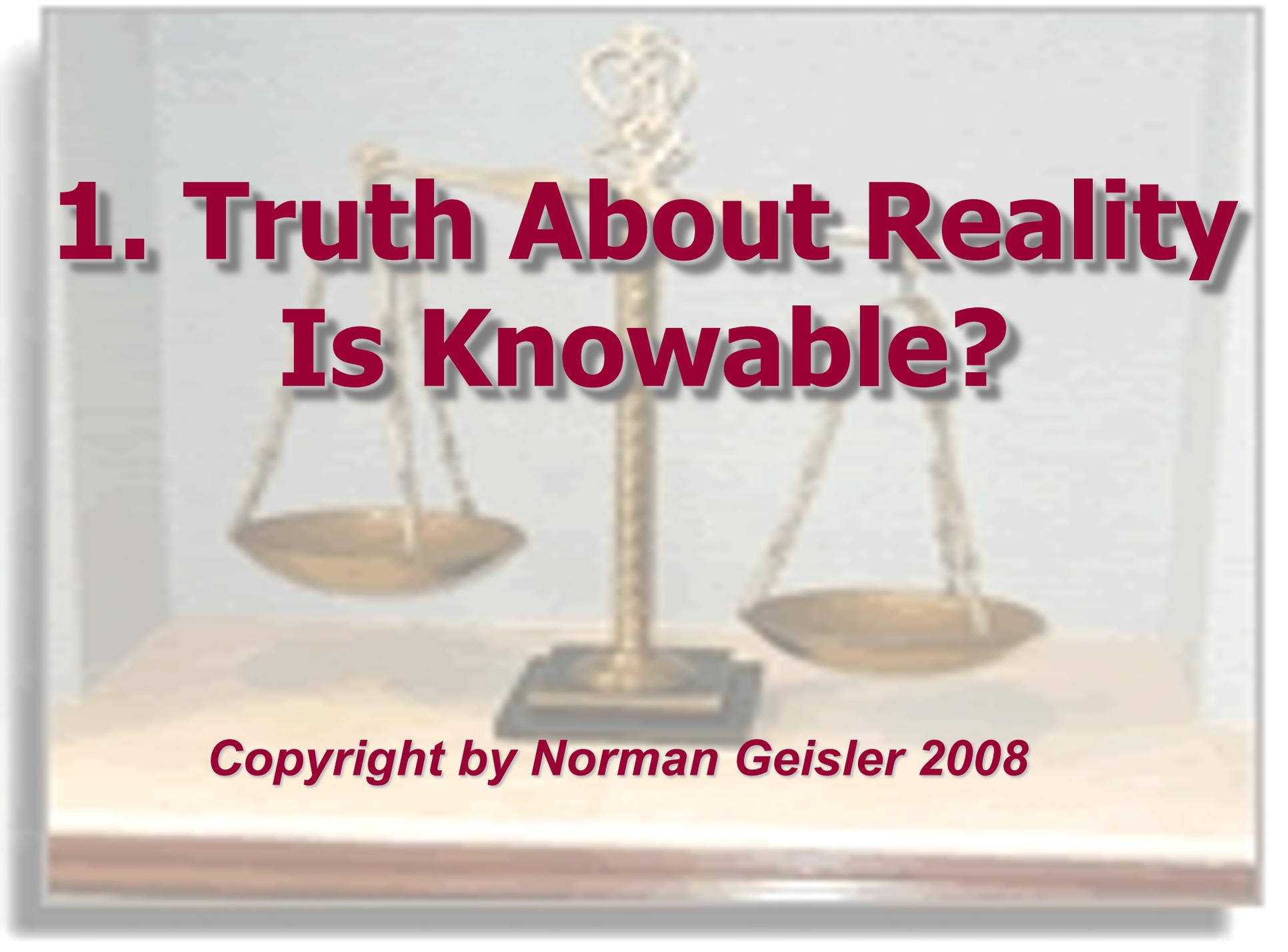
A pair of golden scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass or gold, with two pans hanging from a central beam. The entire scene is set on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

12 Points That Show Christianity Is True

Copyright by Norman Geisler 2008

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales have two pans hanging from a central vertical post. The entire scene is set on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a plain, light blue wall.

1. Truth About Reality Is Knowable?

Copyright by Norman Geisler 2008

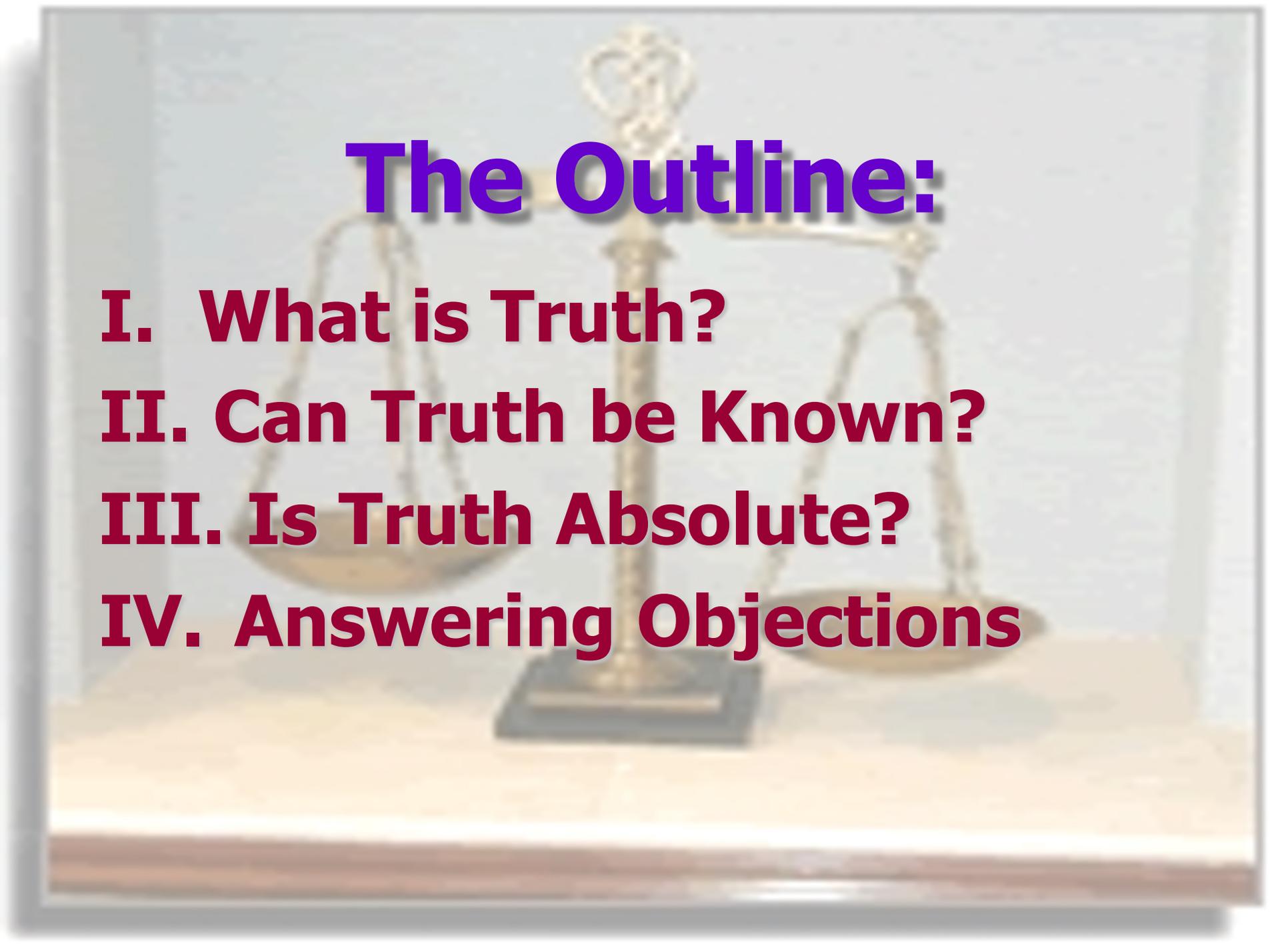
Twelve Points that Show Christianity is True

- 1. Truth about reality is knowable.**
- 2. The opposite of true is false.**
- 3. It is true that the theistic God exists.**
- 4. If God exists then miracles are possible.**
- 5. Miracles can be used to confirm a message from God.**
- 6. The New Testament is historically reliable.**
- 7. The New Testament says Jesus claimed to be God.**
- 8. Jesus' claim to be God was miraculously confirmed by:**
 - a. His fulfillment of many prophecies about Himself;**
 - b. His sinless and miraculous life;**
 - c. His prediction of and resurrection from the dead.**
- 9. Therefore, Jesus is God.**
- 10. Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true.**
- 11. Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God.**
- 12. Therefore, it is true that the Bible is the Word of God (and anything opposed to it is false).**

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the image. The scales are made of polished brass and feature two pans hanging from a central vertical post. The pans are currently empty. The scales are placed on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a plain, light blue wall. The entire scene is framed by a thin, dark border.

Truth Under Fire

Copyright by Norman Geisler 2008

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale has two pans hanging from a central beam, and a decorative finial on top. The background is a light, textured wall.

The Outline:

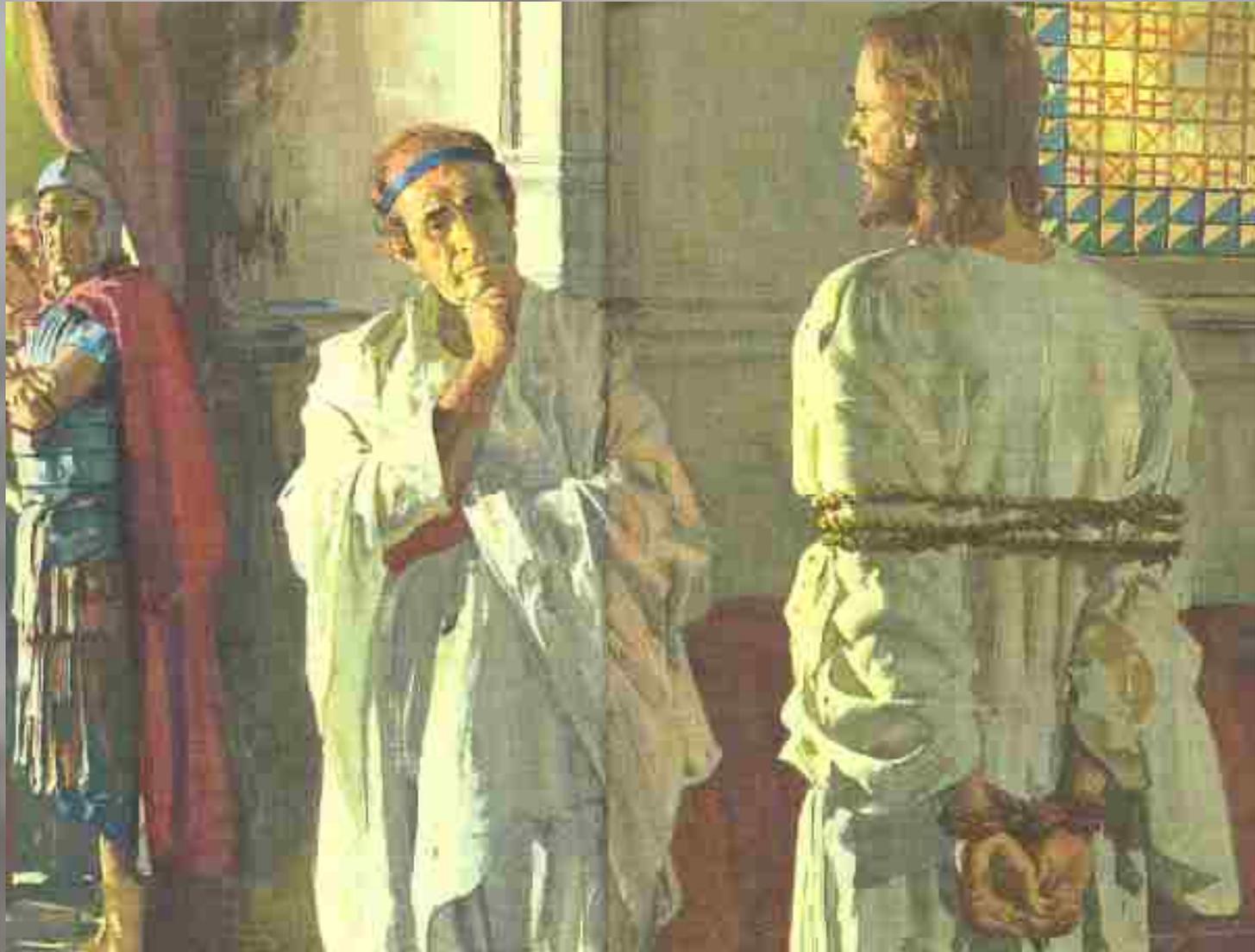
I. What is Truth?

II. Can Truth be Known?

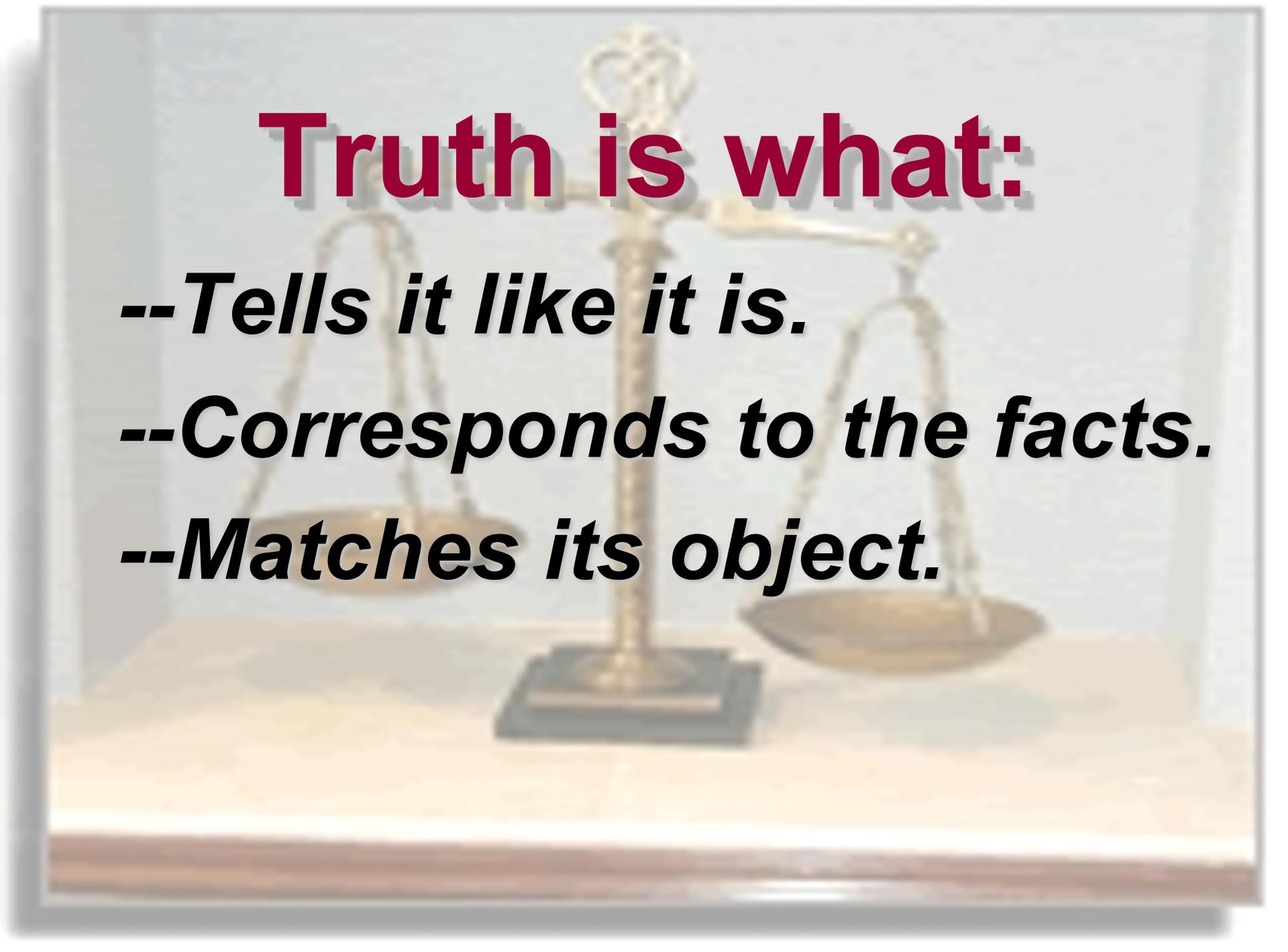
III. Is Truth Absolute?

IV. Answering Objections

I. What is Truth?



Truth is what:

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale has two pans hanging from a central beam, and a decorative finial on top. The background is a light, neutral color.

--Tells it like it is.

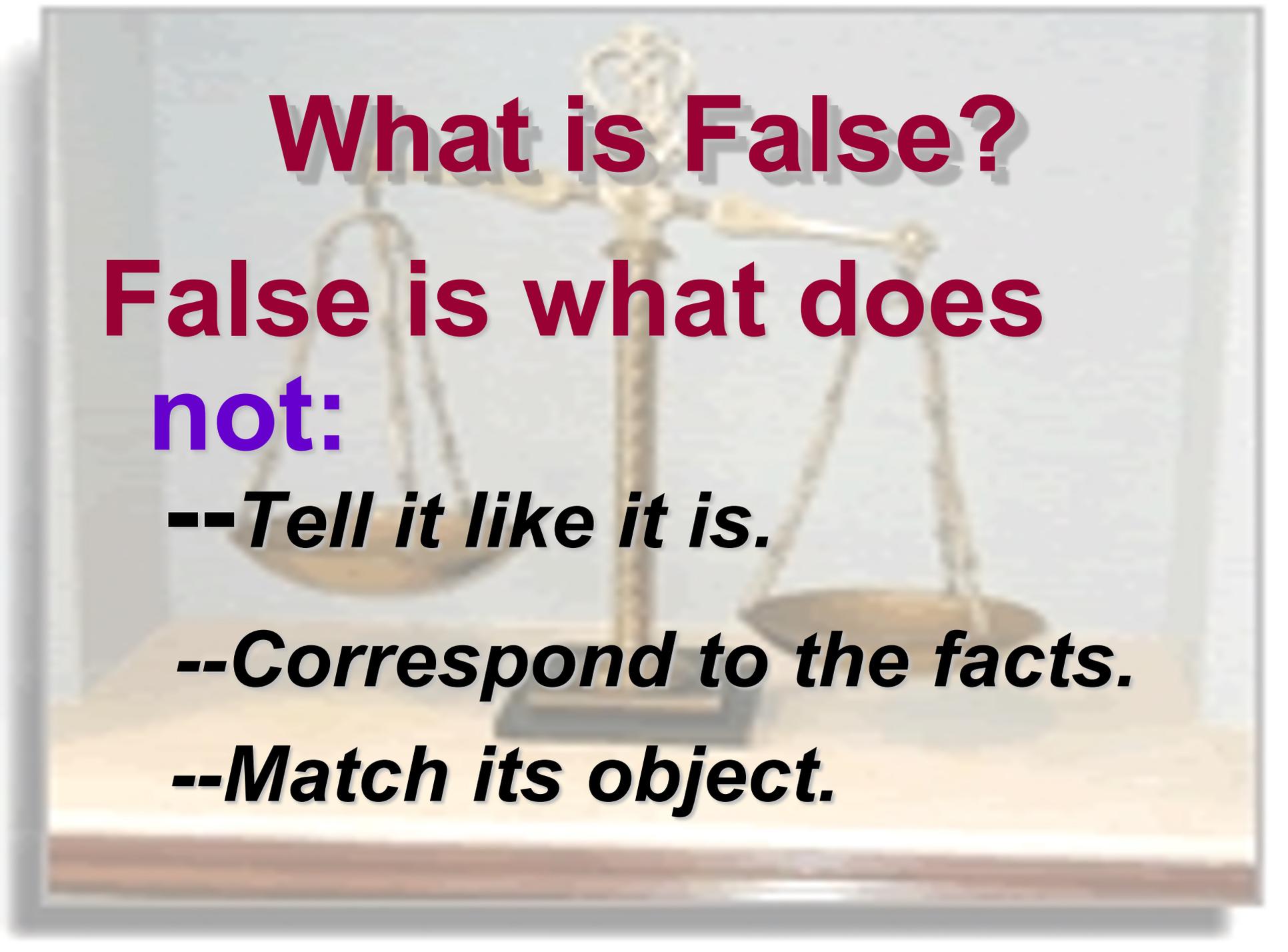
--Corresponds to the facts.

--Matches its object.

**A true statement matches its
object**

“This object is a table.”





What is False?

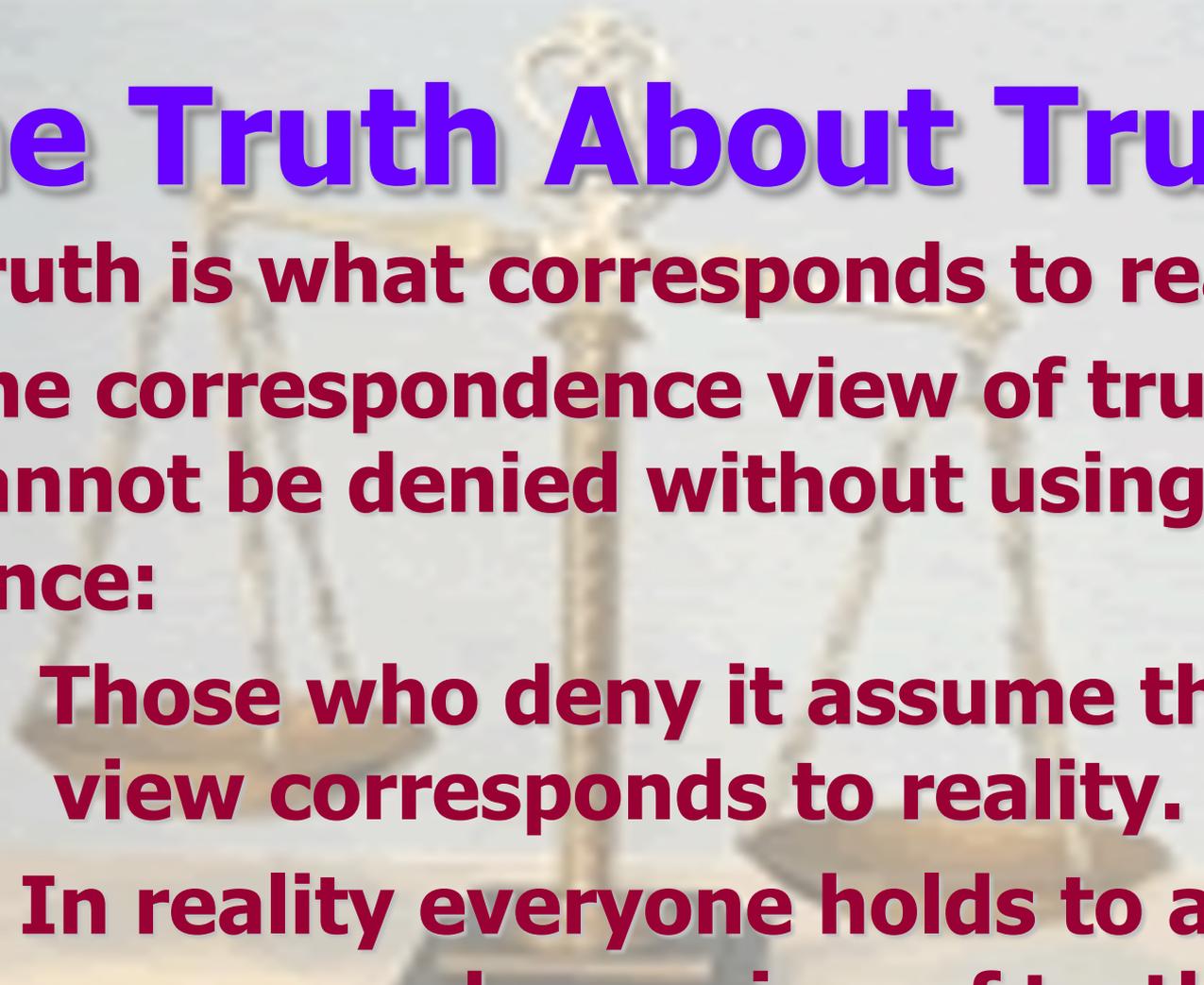
**False is what does
not:**

--*Tell it like it is.*

--*Correspond to the facts.*

--*Match its object.*

The Truth About Truth



- 1. Truth is what corresponds to reality.**
- 2. The correspondence view of truth cannot be denied without using it since:**
 - a. Those who deny it assume their view corresponds to reality.**
 - b. In reality everyone holds to a correspondence view of truth.**
 - c. Those who deny it in theory, use it in practice.**

How Do We Know?

Because it is Self-defeating to Deny It

“I can’t speak a word in English.”



Isn’t that in English?”



Truth is Telling it like it is

“Truth is not telling like it is!”



“Isn’t that claiming to tell it like it is?”



Arguments for Correspondence View

1. It is implied in the ninth command ("You shall not bear false witness"), i.e., don't misrepresent the facts.
2. It is entailed in Acts 24 when it says you can "learn the truth" when you "verify [the facts]" (vs. 8, 11).
3. It is manifest in Genesis 42:16 when Joseph said they should look at the facts "so that your words may be tested to see if you are telling the truth."
4. It was employed in the test for a false prophet whose prophecy was considered false "if the word does not come to pass or come true" (Deut. 18:22).
5. It is utilized in everyday conversations when we consider something false if it misrepresents the facts (e.g., we say "check the facts" and "check it out for yourself" and the like).
6. It is essential to a legal oath when one promises "to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

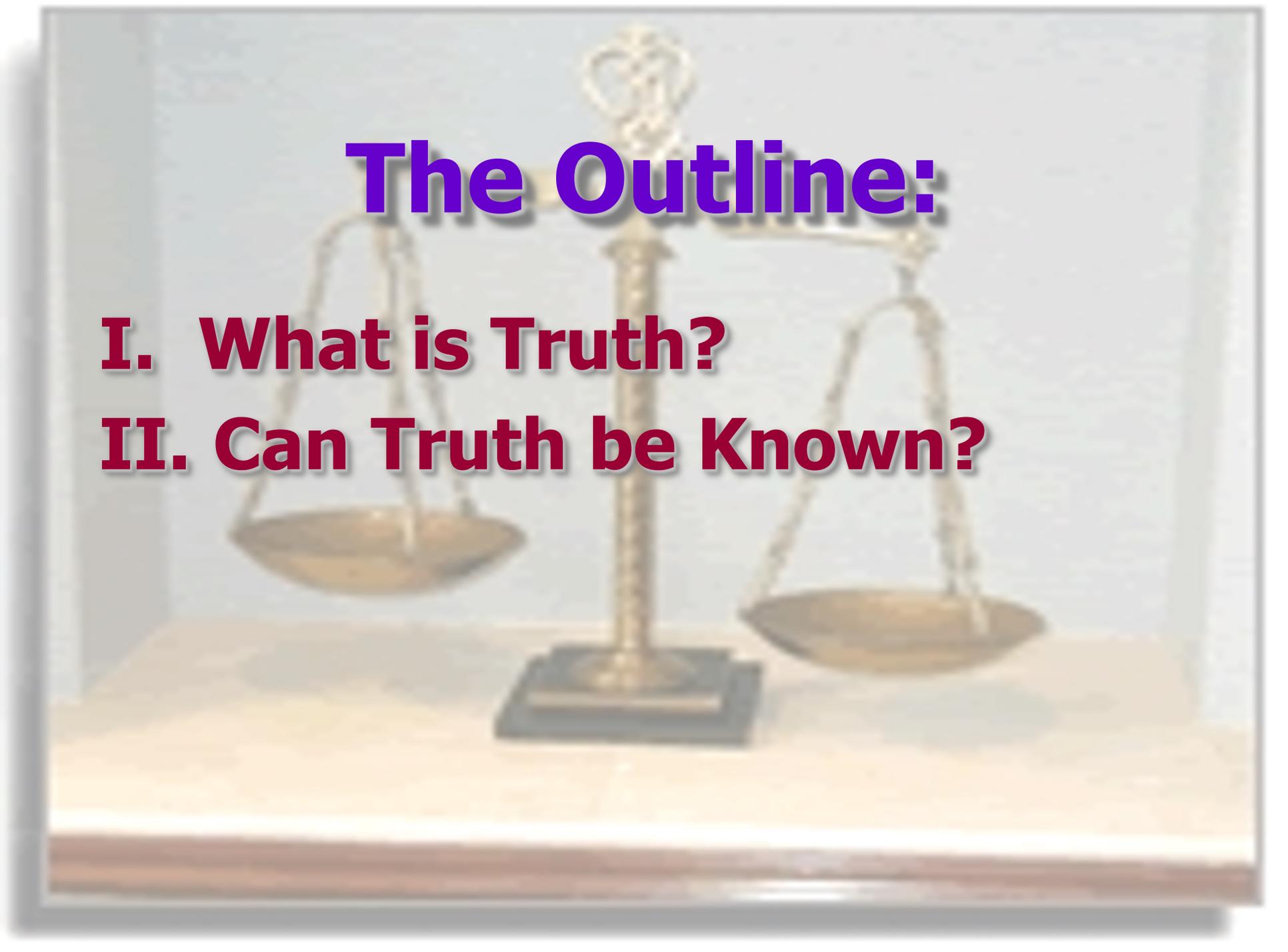
Answering Objections to the Correspondence View

Objection 1: Jesus said, "I am the truth" (not, "I correspond to the facts").

Response: Jesus' lips and life perfectly corresponded to reality. Persons can represent truth as well as propositions.

Objection 2: God is truth, and He does not correspond to any reality beyond Himself.

Response: God is the source of all truth and His words and actions correspond to His nature. Thus God is "true" to Himself. This is perfect correspondence.

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales have two pans hanging from a central beam, and they are placed on a wooden surface. The background is a light blue wall.

The Outline:

I. What is Truth?

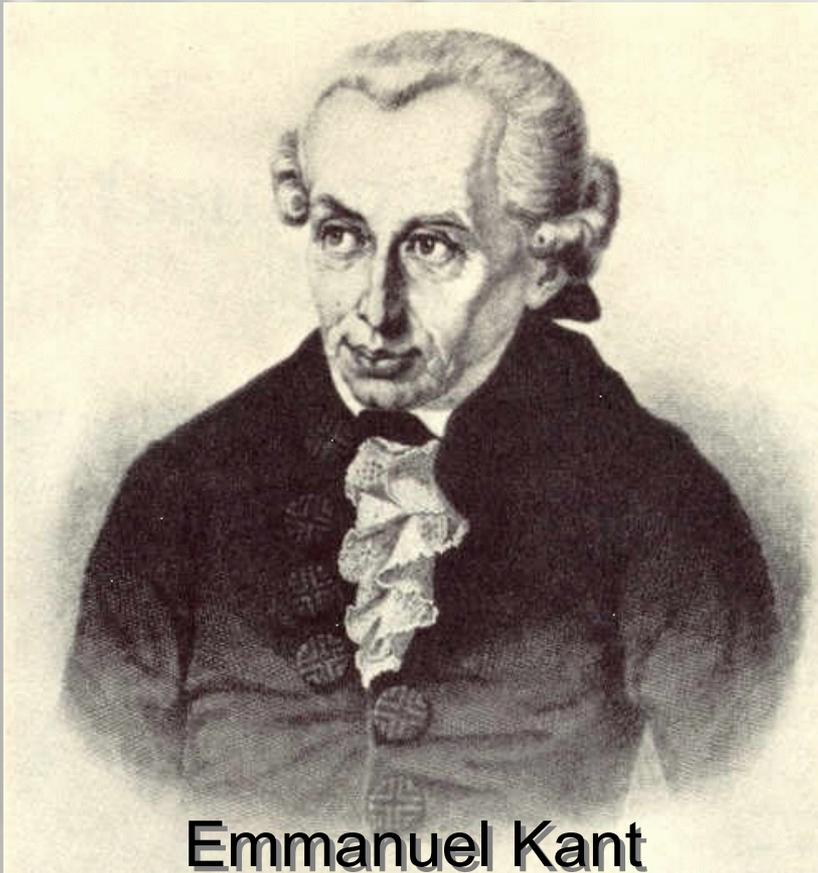
II. Can Truth be Known?



Answering Opponents of the Truth

- **Relativism**—*denies absolute truth*
- **Agnosticism**—*denies knowing any truth*
- **Skepticism**—*doubts all truth*
- **Post-Modernism**—*affirms no truth*

Agnosticism: Truth about reality is Unknowable



Emmanuel Kant

- Kant said we can't know truth about reality.
- *We can only know appearance, not reality.*
- *We can't know the thing in itself, only the thing to us.*
- *We must remain agnostic about reality.*

Can We Know the Truth?



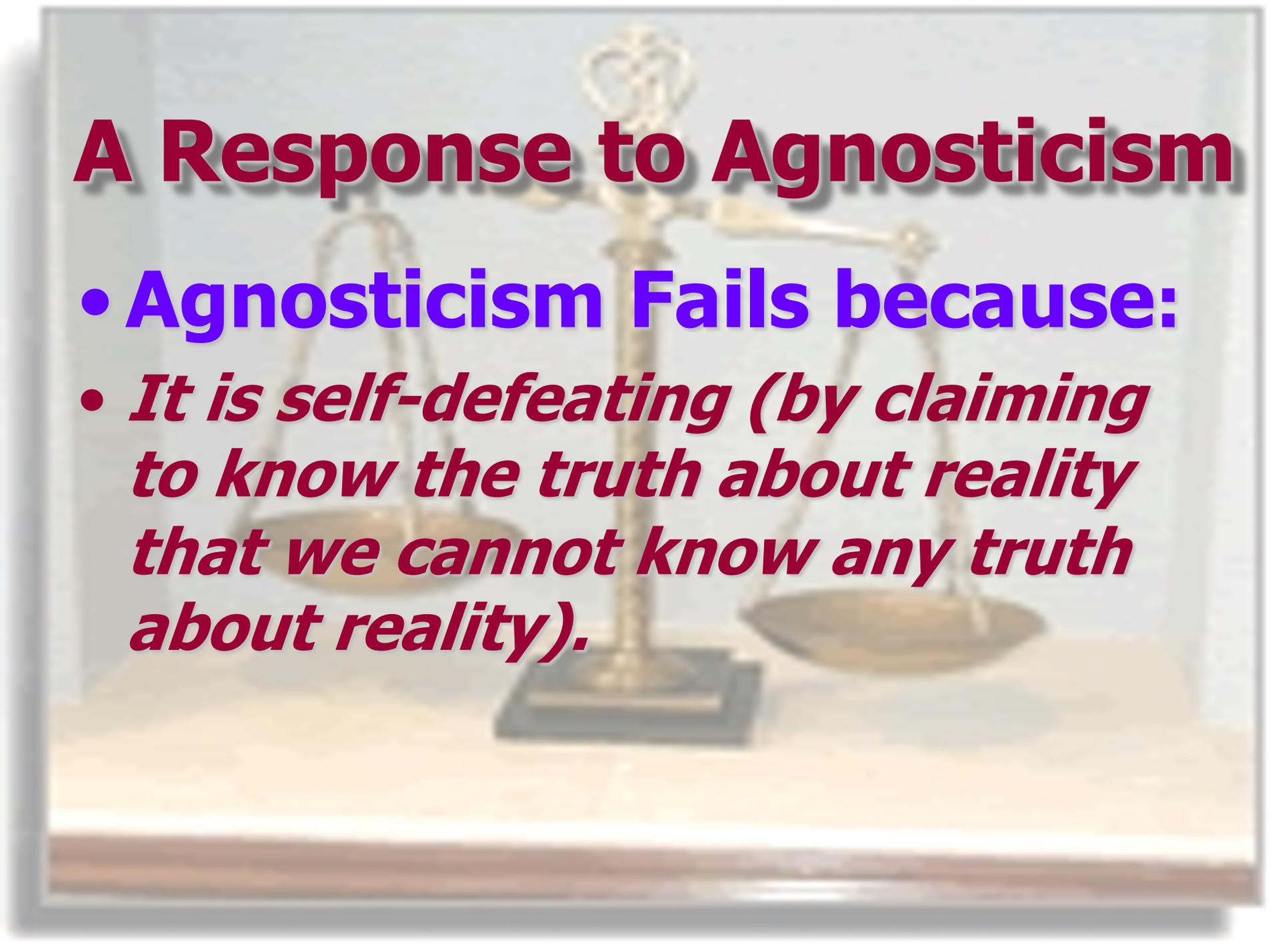
“No one knows the truth!”



“Then how do you know that is true?”



A Response to Agnosticism

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale is slightly out of focus, with the pans hanging from a central beam. The background is a light, neutral color.

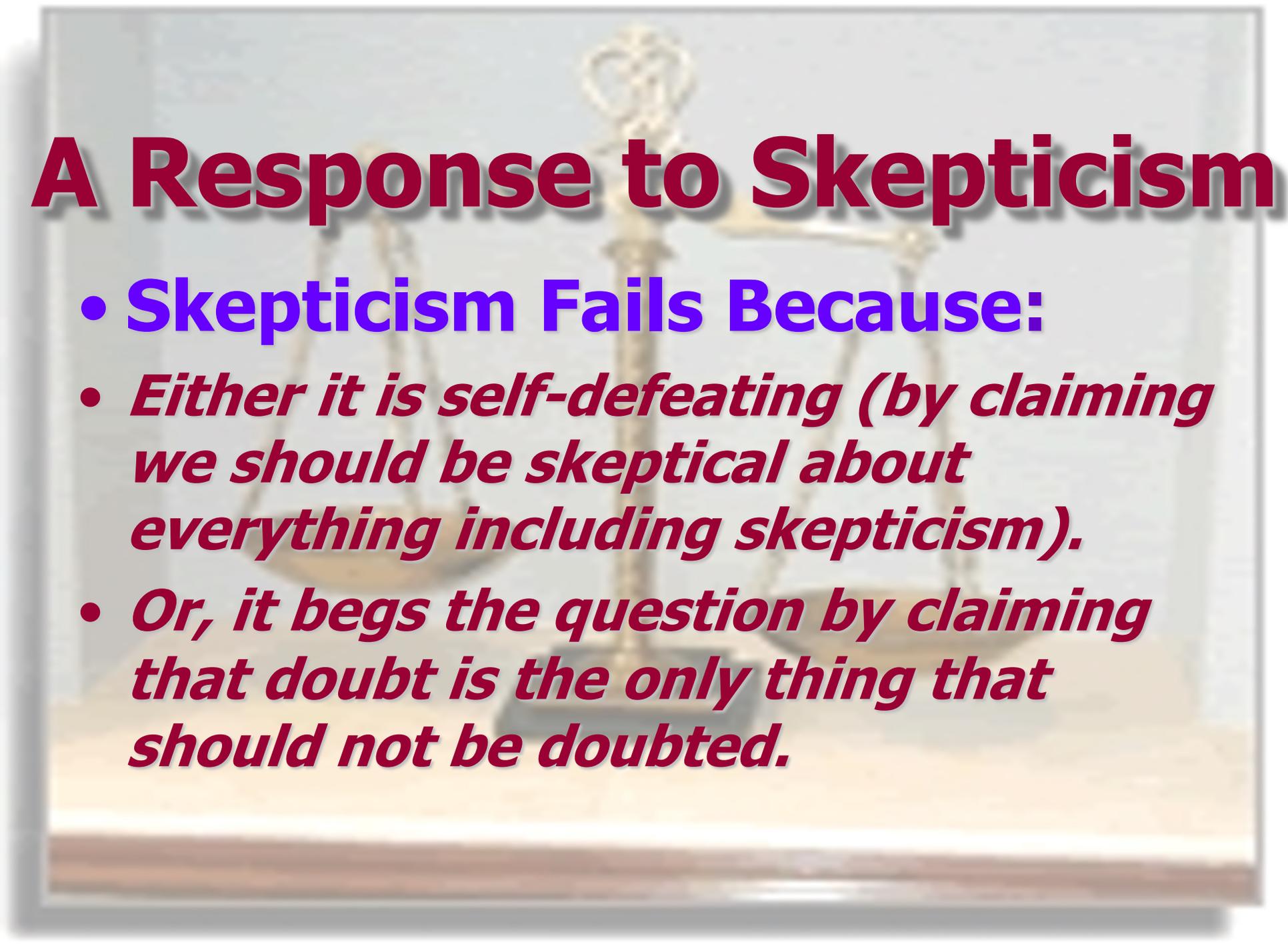
- **Agnosticism Fails because:**
- *It is self-defeating (by claiming to know the truth about reality that we cannot know any truth about reality).*

Skepticism: Doubt all Truth



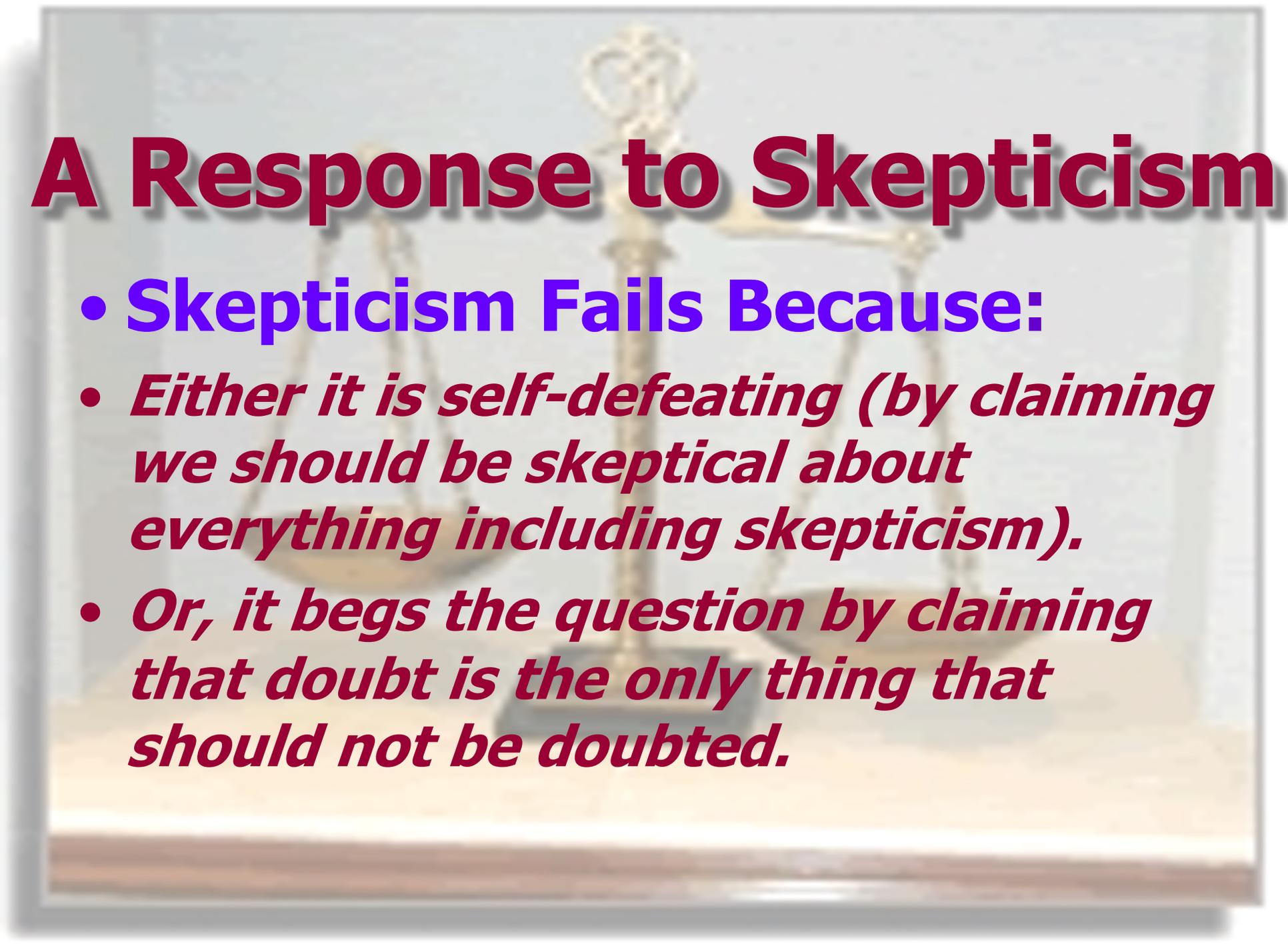
David Hume

- *We should doubt everything about reality.*
- *We can know only sense data.*
- *We should suspend judgment on all truth claims about reality.*



A Response to Skepticism

- **Skepticism Fails Because:**
- *Either it is self-defeating (by claiming we should be skeptical about everything including skepticism).*
- *Or, it begs the question by claiming that doubt is the only thing that should not be doubted.*



A Response to Skepticism

- **Skepticism Fails Because:**
- *Either it is self-defeating (by claiming we should be skeptical about everything including skepticism).*
- *Or, it begs the question by claiming that doubt is the only thing that should not be doubted.*

Doubt Leads to Certainty



Rene Descartes d. 1650

Descartes argued that:

- 1. The more I doubt, the more sure I am that I am doubting.**
- 2. The more sure I am that I am doubting the more certain I am that I exist.**
- 3. Hence, doubt leads to certainty.**

Post-Modernism: Make no Truth Claims



Jacque Derrida

- *We must deconstruct all truth claims.*
- *We can reconstruct as many views as possible.*
- *No reconstruction is objectively true; it is merely new.*

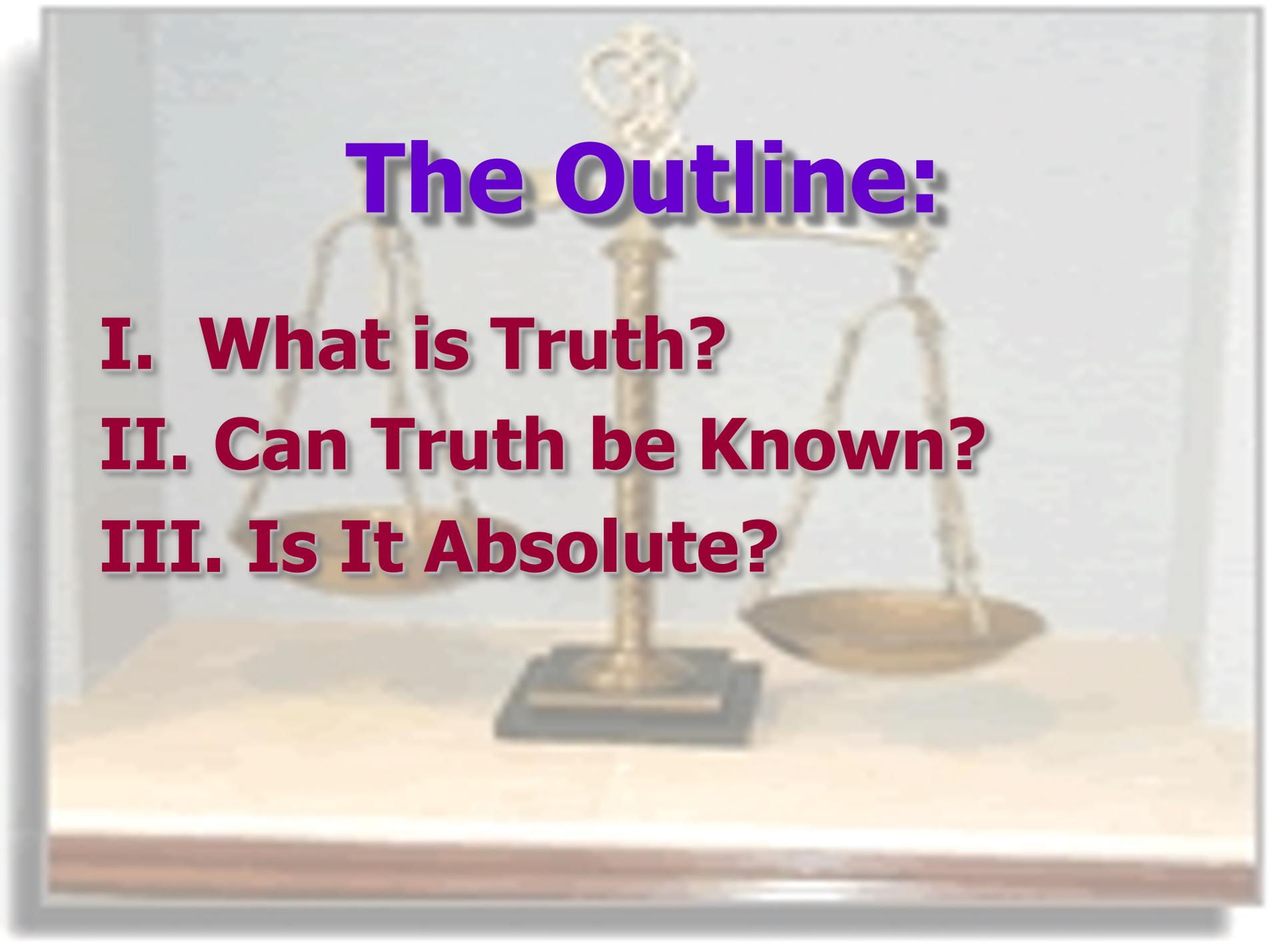
A Response to Post-Modernism



- **Post-Modernism Fails Because:**
Either it claims to be true (and is thereby self-defeating);
Or else it makes no truth claim (and is not even in the "ball game" of truth.
- *Ignoring the truth does not make it go away!*

Ignoring Truth is Fatal





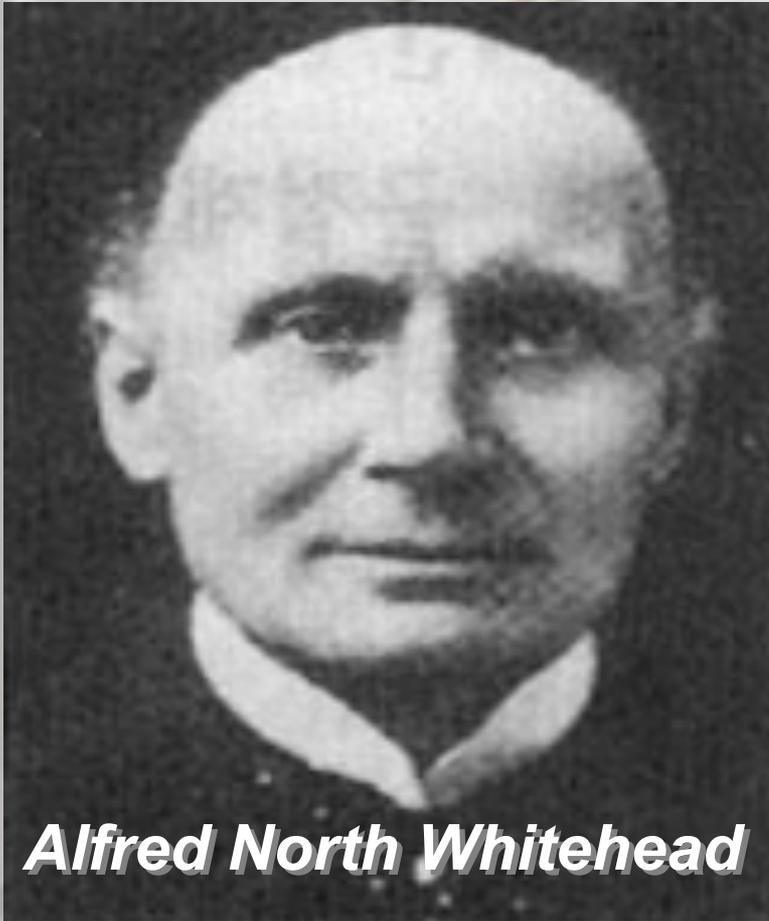
The Outline:

I. What is Truth?

II. Can Truth be Known?

III. Is It Absolute?

Relativism: All Truth is Relative



Alfred North Whitehead

- *Reality has no unchanging forms.*
- *All truth is in process and is never final.*
- *All truth is changing and relative.*

A Response to Relativism

Relativism fails because:

- *It either affirms that relativism is absolutely true (which is self-defeating) or else its claim is just another relative statement (and not binding on everyone).*
- *Either relativism is only true for the relativist (and is not true for everyone) or else it is true for everyone (and is not relativism).*

IS Truth Absolute?

“There is no absolute truth!”



“Is that absolutely true?”



Is Truth Absolute?



“It’s true for you but not for me!”



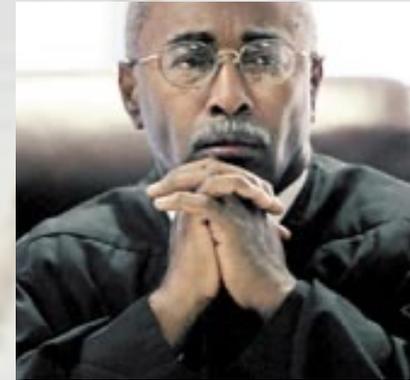
“Is that just true for you but not for me?”



We Assume the Objectivity and Knowability of Truth in---

- **Safety**

2445D	DJ MICROSOFT CORP (MSI)		
2446D	DJ MOTOROLA INC (MOT)		
2447D	DJ ANHEUSER BUSCH (BUL		
INDU	-27.22	UOLU	289,915.00
INDP	11008.48	UVOL	112,745.80
UTIL	-.99	DVOL	134,141.60
TRAN	-23.70	TRIN	.77
GHR5 L55 CR HWP AVE			
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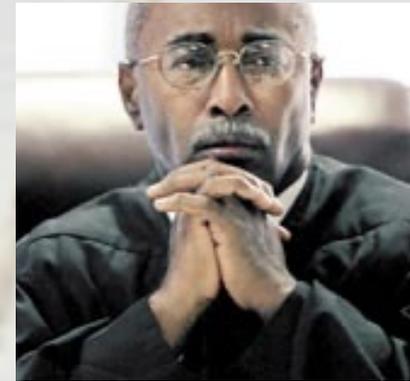


We Assume the Objectivity and Knowability of Truth in---

- **Safety**
- **Money**



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2446D	DJ MOTOROLA INC (MOT)			
2447D	DJ ANHEUSER BUSCH (BUL			
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GHRS	LSS	CR	HWP	AVB
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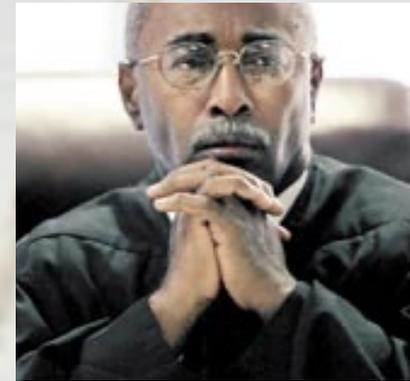


We Assume the Objectivity and Knowability of Truth in---

- **Safety**
- **Money**
- **Medicine**



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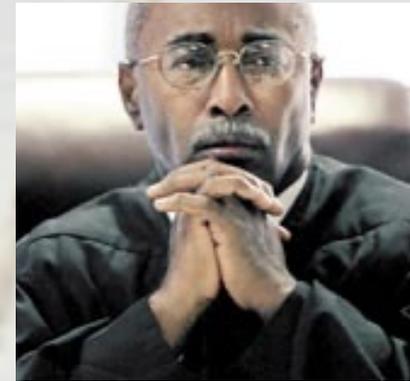


We Assume the Objectivity and Knowability of Truth in---

- **Safety**
- **Money**
- **Medicine**
- **Relationships**



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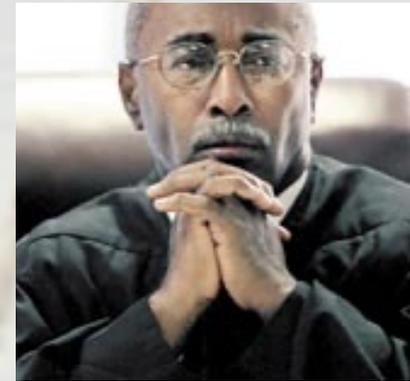


We Assume the Objectivity and Knowability of Truth in---

- **Safety**
- **Money**
- **Medicine**
- **Relationships**
- **Court Proceedings**



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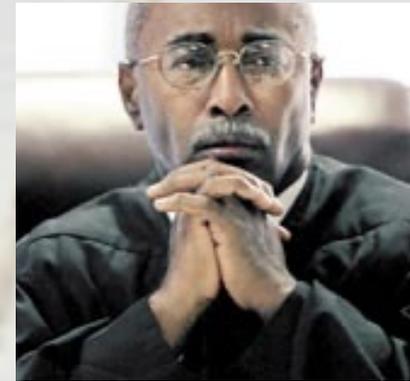
We Assume the Objectivity and Knowability of Truth in---

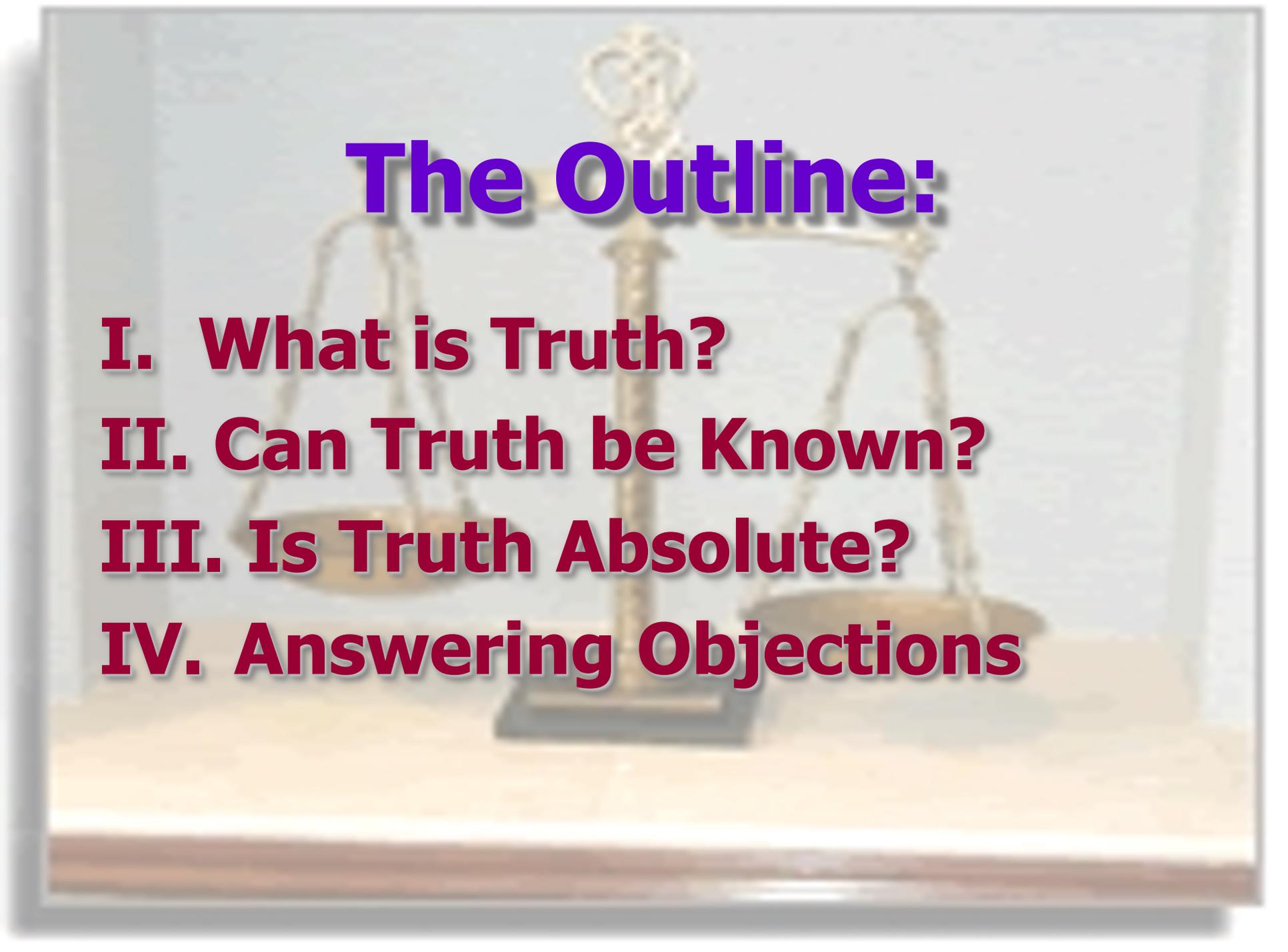
- **Safety**
- **Money**
- **Medicine**
- **Relationships**
- **Court Proceedings**

So everyone really believes in absolute truth



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2446D	DJ MOTOROLA INC (MOT)				
2447D	DJ ANHEUSER BUSCH (BUL)				
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UTIL	-.99	DVOL	134,141.60		
TRAN	-23.70	TRIN	.77		
GHSR LSS CR HWP AVE					
	56	83	43		



A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale has two pans hanging from a central beam, and a decorative finial on top. The background is a light, textured wall.

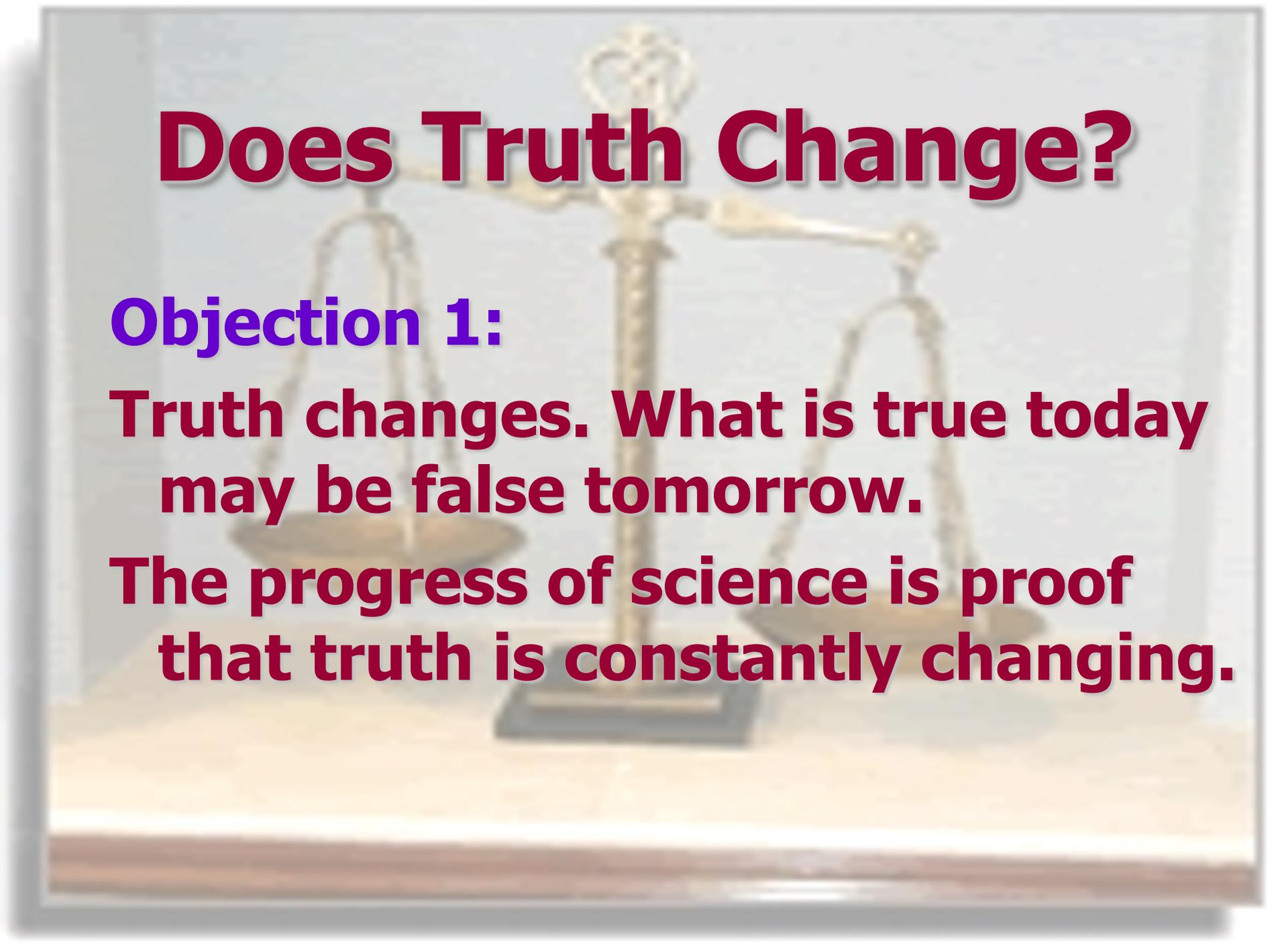
The Outline:

I. What is Truth?

II. Can Truth be Known?

III. Is Truth Absolute?

IV. Answering Objections

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale has two pans hanging from a central beam, and a decorative finial on top. The background is a light, textured wall.

Does Truth Change?

Objection 1:

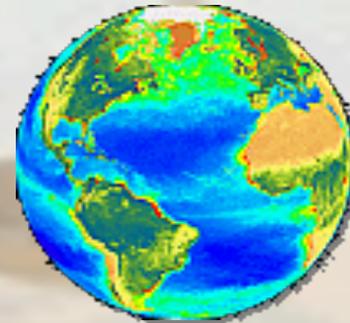
Truth changes. What is true today may be false tomorrow.

The progress of science is proof that truth is constantly changing.

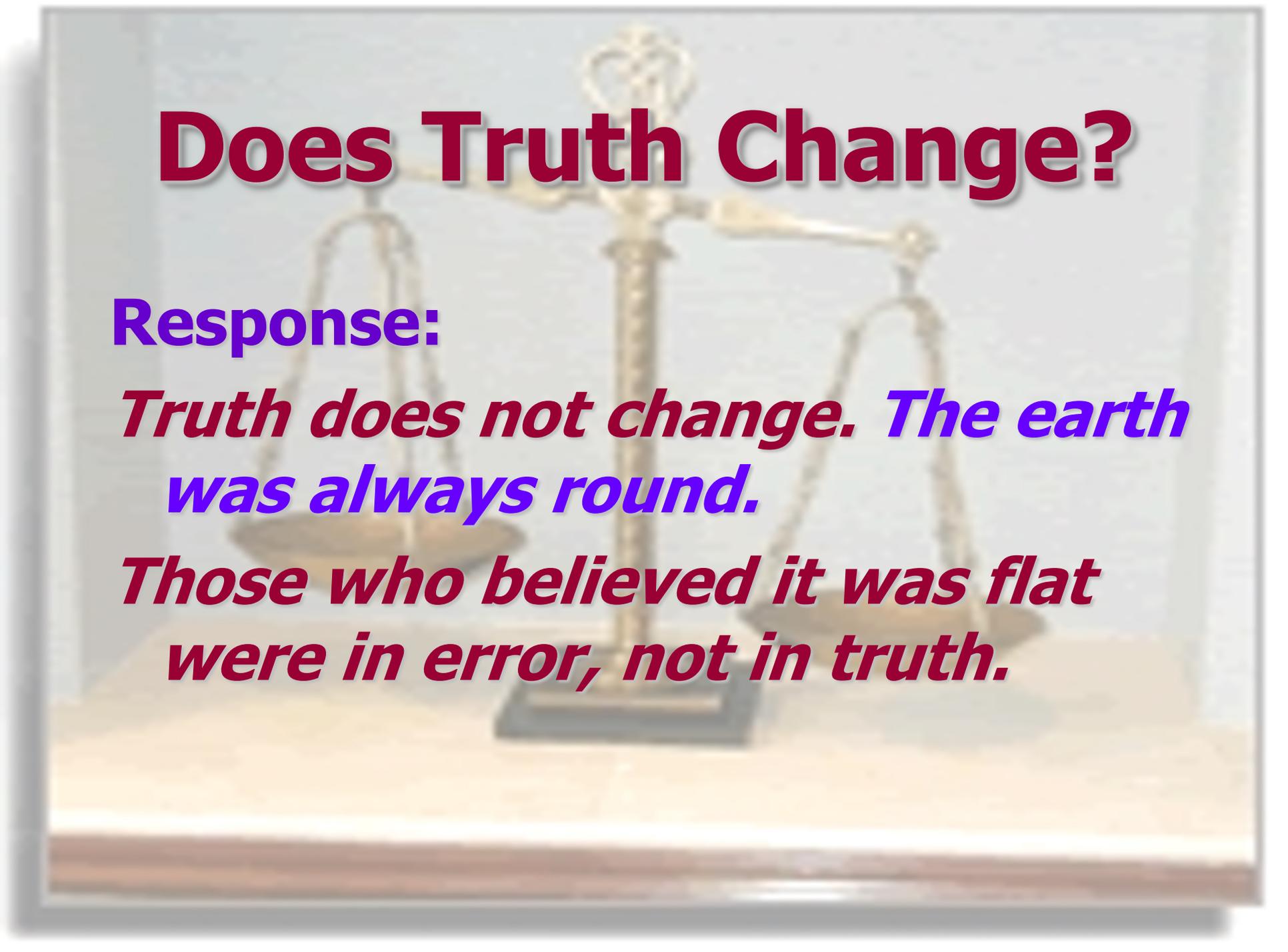
Does Truth Change?

Earlier Truth--The Earth is Flat.

Later Truth--The Earth is Round



Does Truth Change?

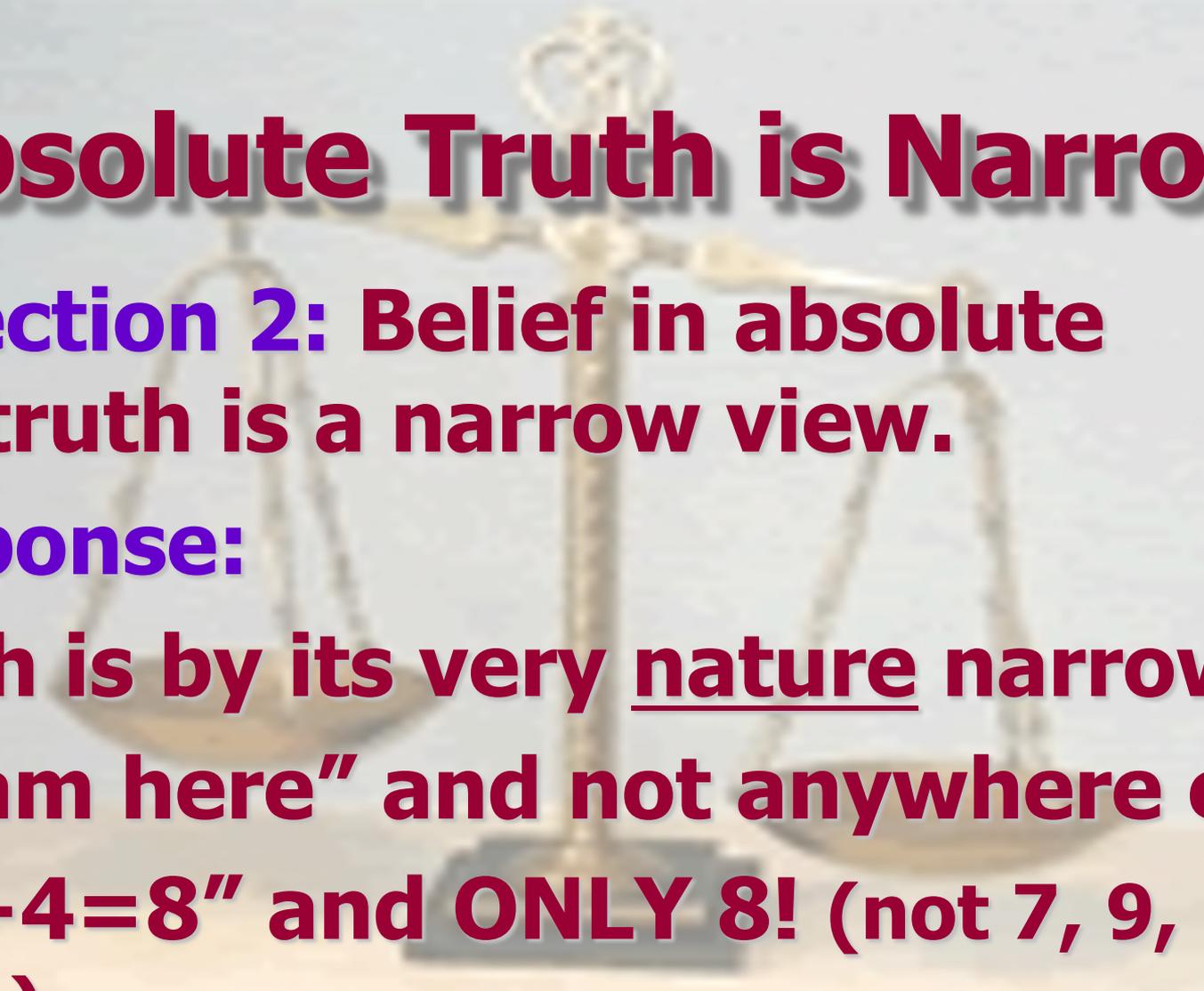
A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale is slightly out of focus, with the pans hanging down. The background is a light, neutral color.

Response:

Truth does not change. The earth was always round.

Those who believed it was flat were in error, not in truth.

Absolute Truth is Narrow



Objection 2: Belief in absolute truth is a narrow view.

Response:

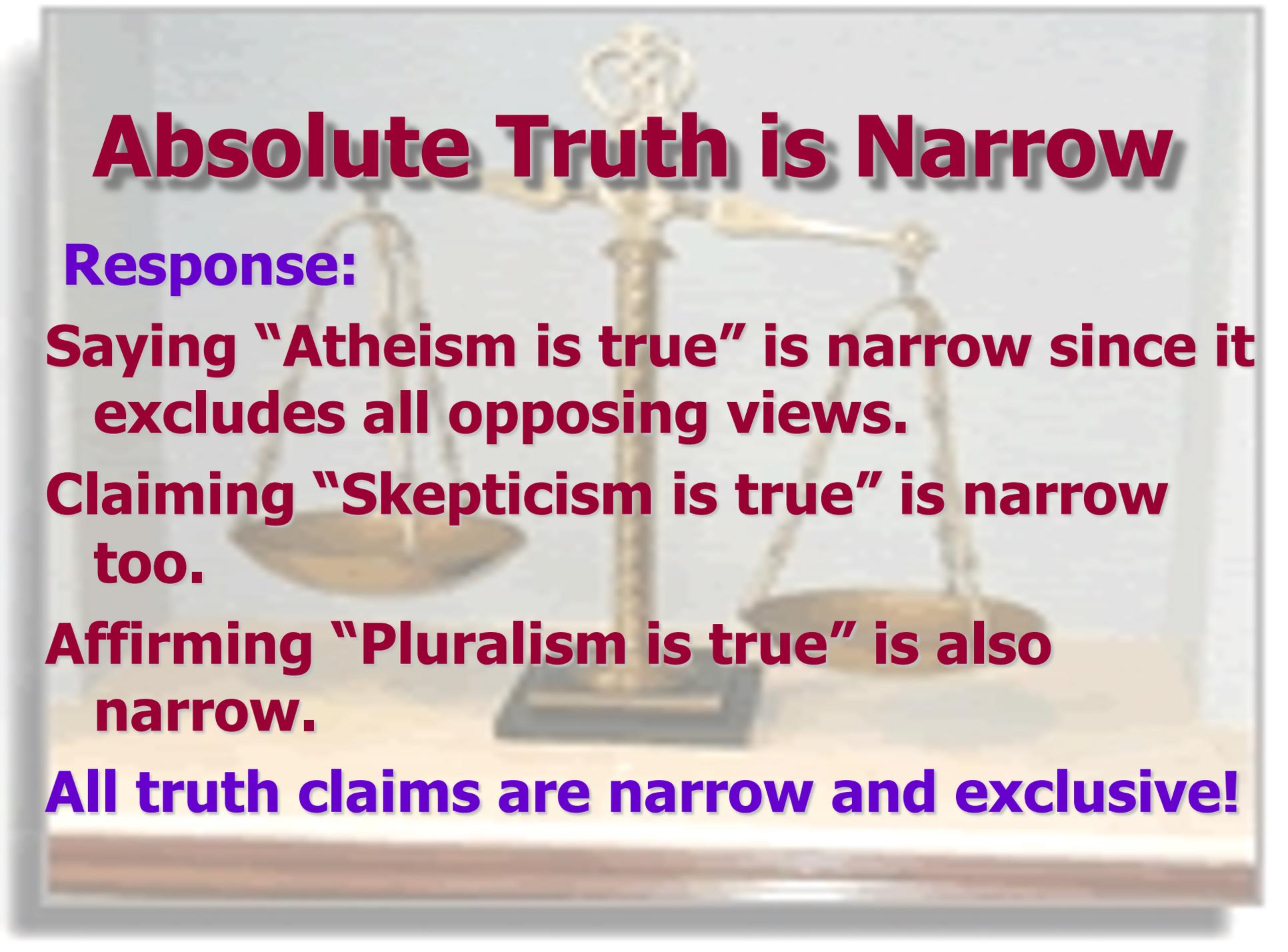
Truth is by its very nature narrow.

“I am here” and not anywhere else.

“ $4+4=8$ ” and ONLY 8! (not 7, 9, 10, etc.)

These are narrow, but they are TRUE!

Absolute Truth is Narrow

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, symbolizing balance and fairness. The scale has two pans hanging from a central beam, and it sits on a wooden base. The background is a light, textured surface.

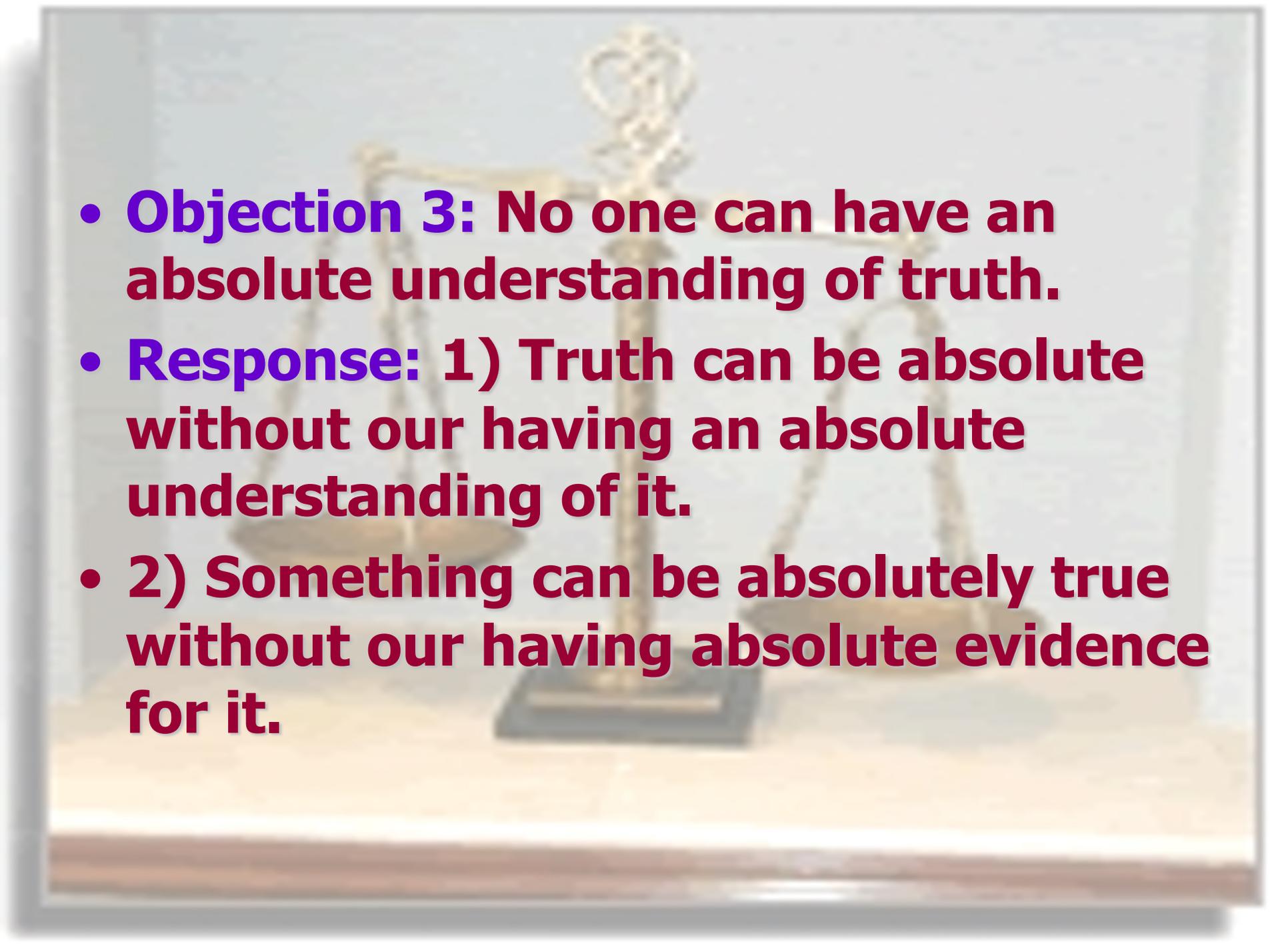
Response:

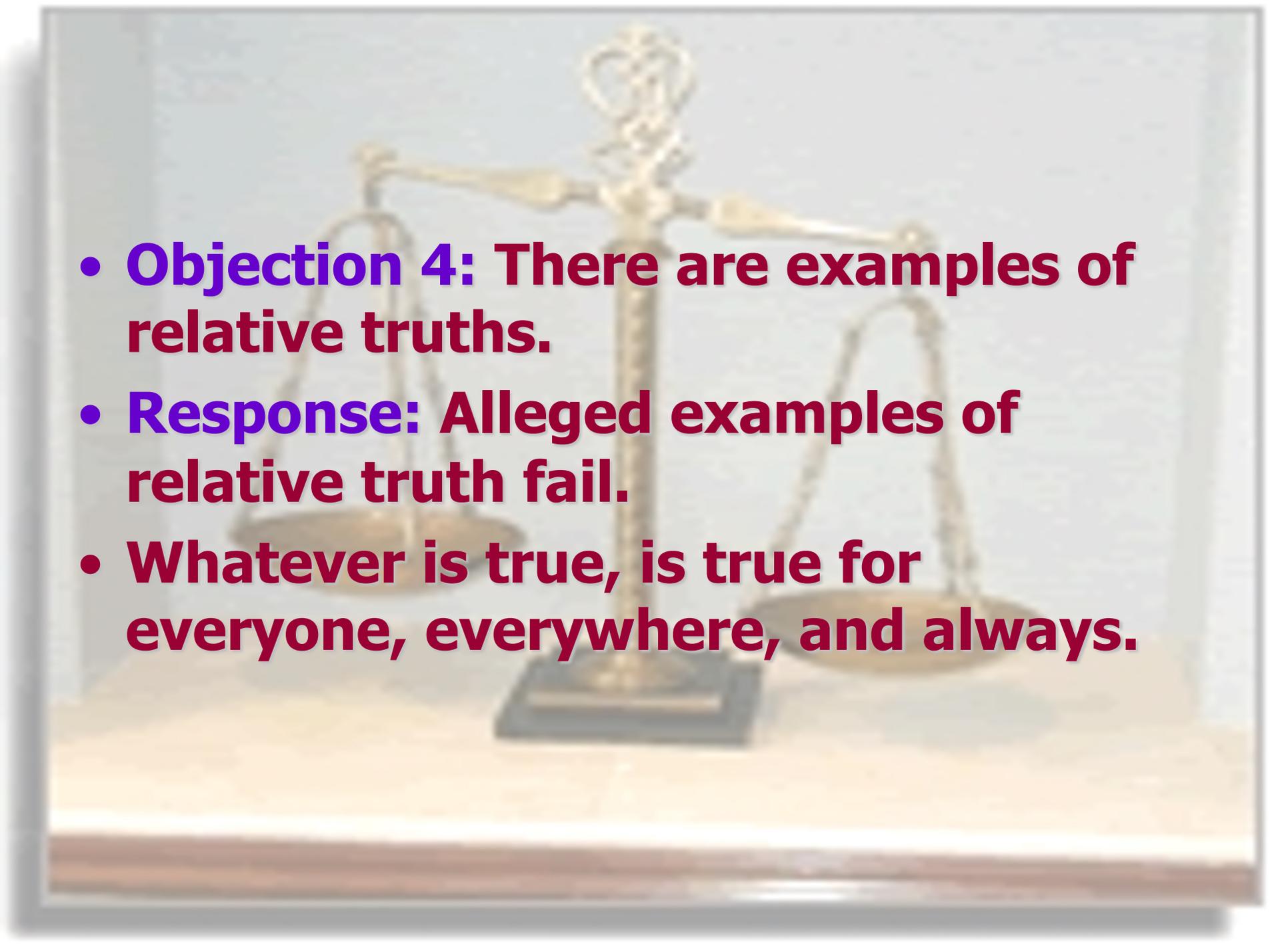
Saying "Atheism is true" is narrow since it excludes all opposing views.

Claiming "Skepticism is true" is narrow too.

Affirming "Pluralism is true" is also narrow.

All truth claims are narrow and exclusive!

- 
- A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale is slightly out of focus, with the background being a light, textured grey. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.
- **Objection 3: No one can have an absolute understanding of truth.**
 - **Response: 1) Truth can be absolute without our having an absolute understanding of it.**
 - **2) Something can be absolutely true without our having absolute evidence for it.**

- 
- A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale is slightly out of focus, with its two pans hanging from a central beam. The background is a light, neutral color.
- **Objection 4: There are examples of relative truths.**
 - **Response: Alleged examples of relative truth fail.**
 - **Whatever is true, is true for everyone, everywhere, and always.**

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass and are placed on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text is overlaid on the image in various colors and styles.

Relative Truth is:

Something true only:

For **SOME** people,

Or in **SOME** places,

Or at **SOME** times.

A pair of brass scales of justice is shown in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scales are slightly out of focus, with the central pillar and the two pans visible. The lighting is soft, highlighting the metallic texture of the scales.

Absolute Truth is:

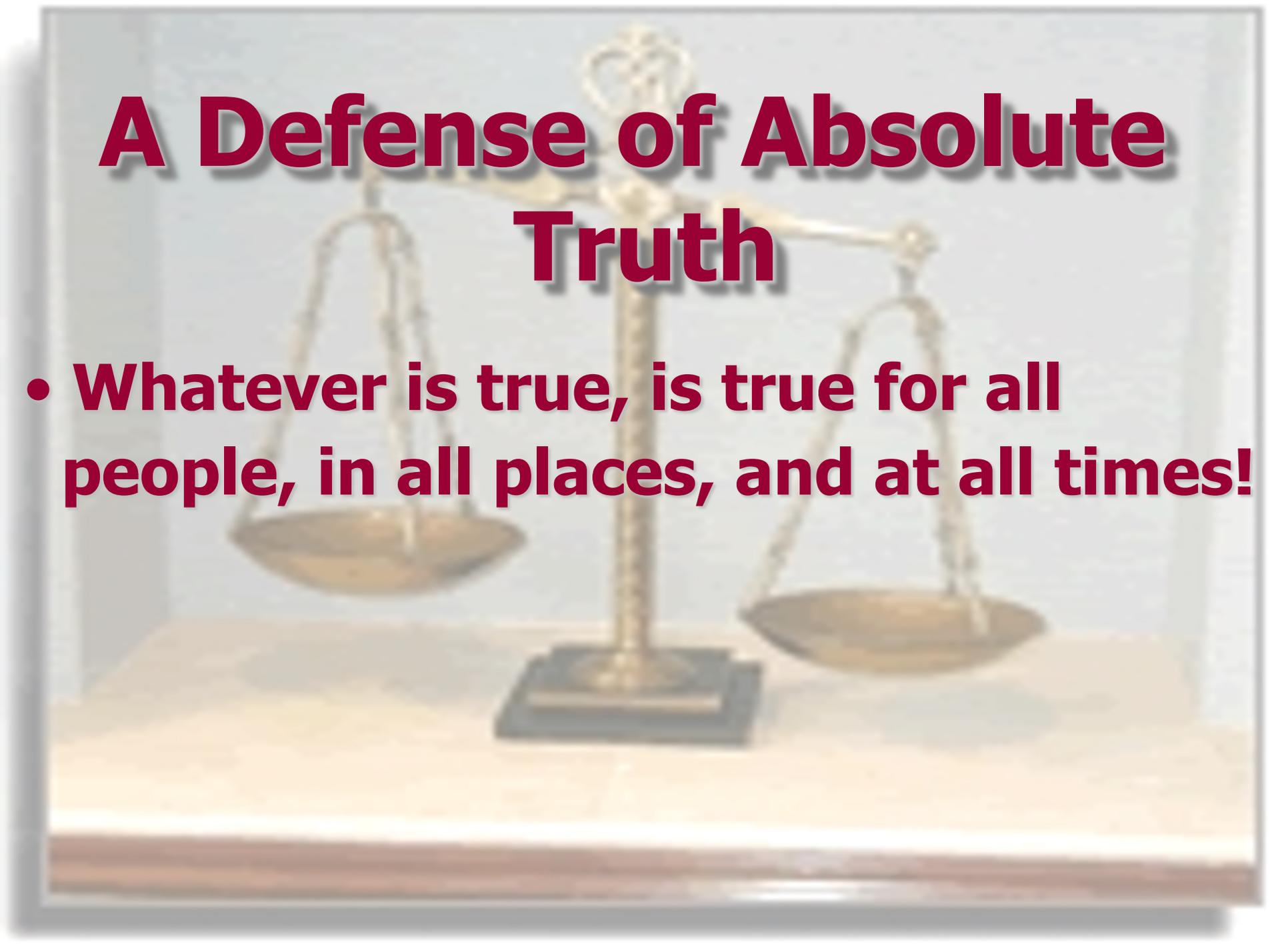
Something true

For ALL people

in ALL places

and at ALL times

A Defense of Absolute Truth

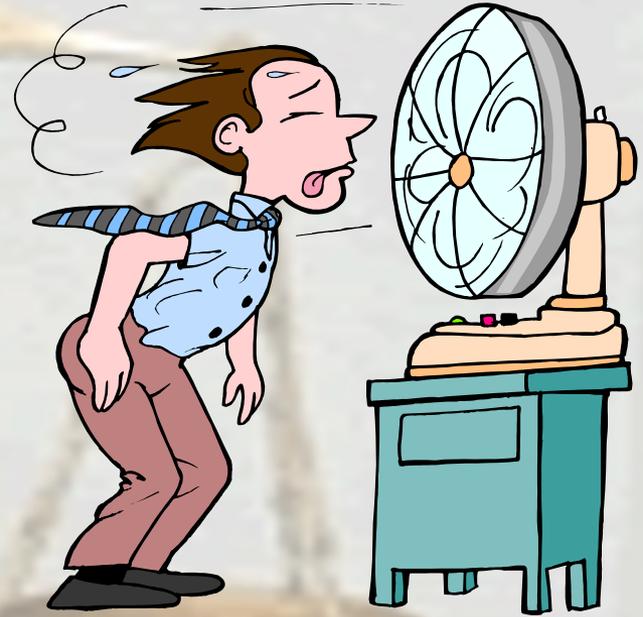
A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass and are mounted on a dark wooden base. The two pans are suspended from a central horizontal beam by thin wires. The scales are positioned on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

- **Whatever is true, is true for all people, in all places, and at all times!**

Both are True Everywhere



***"This man
feels cold"***



***"This man
feels hot"***

It is True at All Times



Did the sun once
revolve around
the earth? ***No!***

It is True at All Times



Did the sun once
revolve around

the earth? ***No!***

Truth didn't change;
our view did!

It is True in All Places



The statement "It is cold at the North Pole and hot in Egypt" is true everywhere



The truth does not change when it is uttered in different geographical locations.

Serious Problems with Relativism

Like an old apple,
relativism may look
good on the surface,
but it is rotten at the
core!

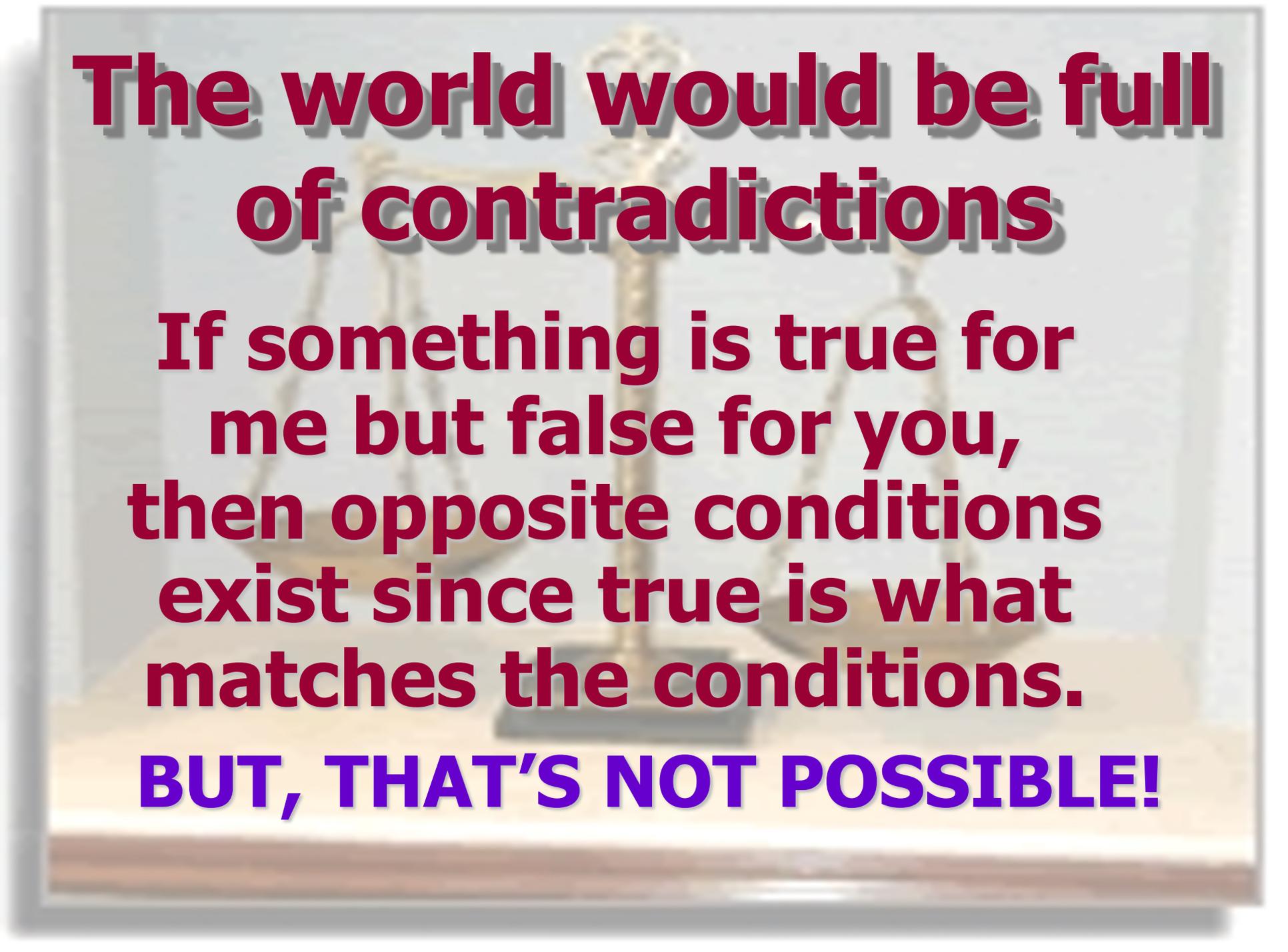


Serious Problems with Relativism

*Relativists believe that relativism is true
for EVERYONE.*

*But if relativism is true for EVERYONE,
then it is no longer a RELATIVE truth,
but an ABSOLUTE truth.*

Relativism is self-defeating.



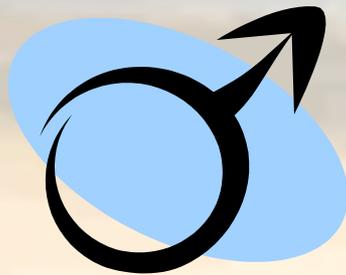
The world would be full of contradictions

**If something is true for
me but false for you,
then opposite conditions
exist since true is what
matches the conditions.**

BUT, THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!

No one would ever be wrong about anything

**If truth is always relative, then I can
never be wrong. If someone claims
I'm wrong, then I can just say, it's
wrong for THEM but not for ME.**



No one would ever learn anything



If we can never be wrong, then we can never learn anything. Learning involves moving from not knowing truth to knowing truth.

Relative Comparisons

Objection: Comparisons are alleged to be relative truths.



Relative Comparisons

A golden balance scale is centered in the background, resting on a light-colored wooden surface. The scale has two pans hanging from a central beam, and a vertical column with a decorative top. The background is a light, neutral color.

Objection: Comparisons are alleged to be relative truths.

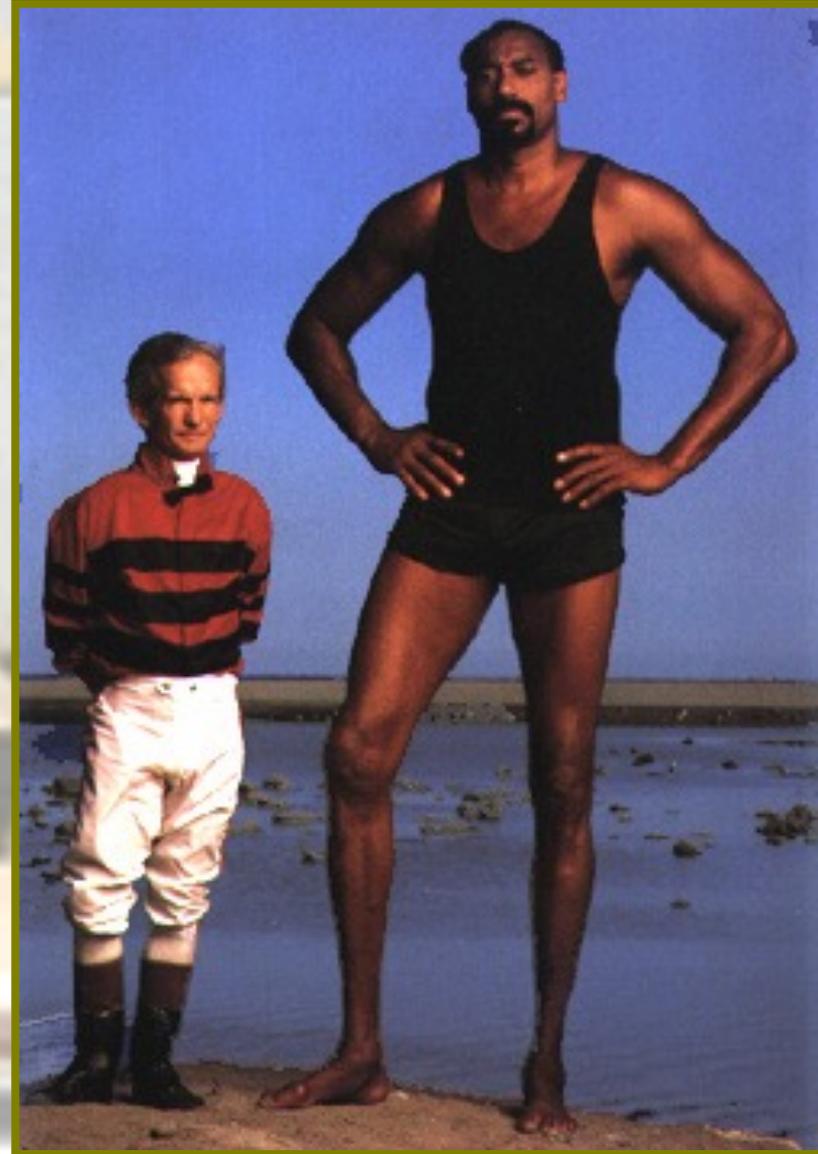
For example: Being warmer, better, or taller is relative to time, space, and persons.

Relative Comparisons

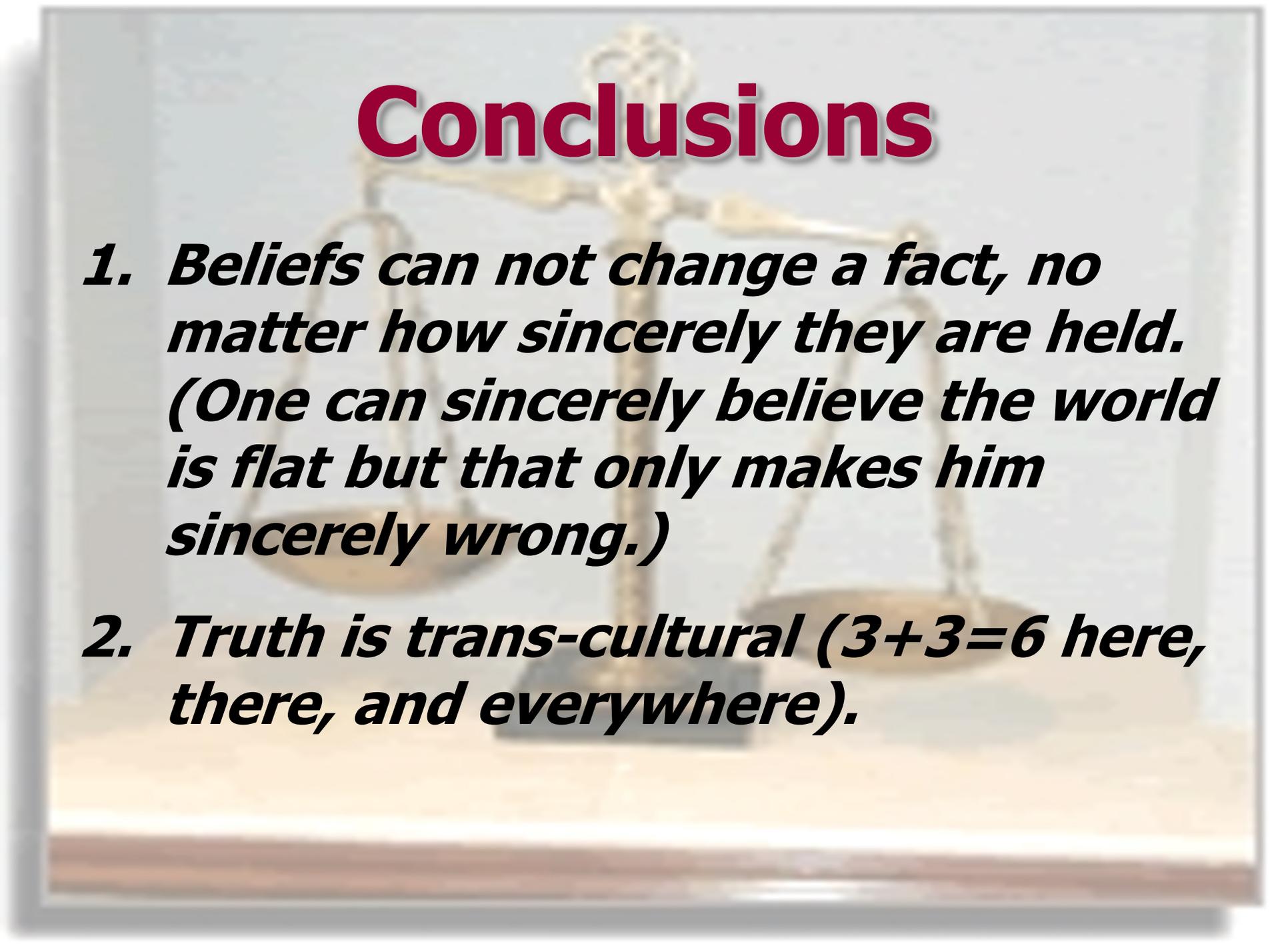
Response:

Saying "Wilt Chamberlain is taller than Willie Shoemaker" will always be true everywhere, all the time, and in all places.

The same thing is true of all other comparisons.



Conclusions



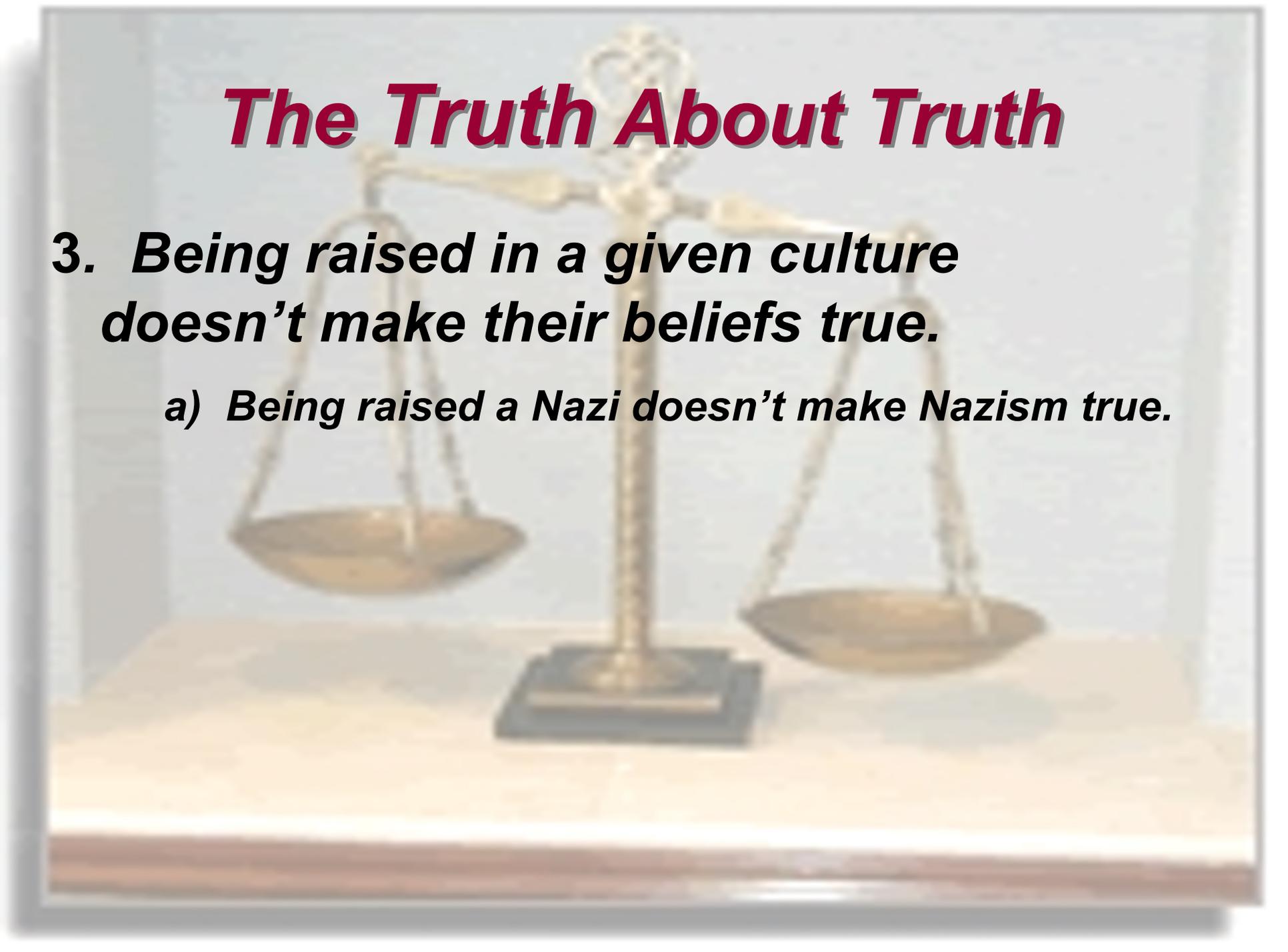
- 1. Beliefs can not change a fact, no matter how sincerely they are held. (One can sincerely believe the world is flat but that only makes him sincerely wrong.)***
- 2. Truth is trans-cultural (3+3=6 here, there, and everywhere).***

The Truth About Truth

***3. Being raised in a given culture
doesn't make their beliefs true.***



The Truth About Truth

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass and are mounted on a dark wooden base. The pans are empty and the scales are in a state of equilibrium. The background is a light, neutral color.

***3. Being raised in a given culture
doesn't make their beliefs true.***

a) Being raised a Nazi doesn't make Nazism true.

The Truth About Truth



***3. Being raised in a given culture
doesn't make their beliefs true.***

a) Being raised a Nazi doesn't make Nazism true.

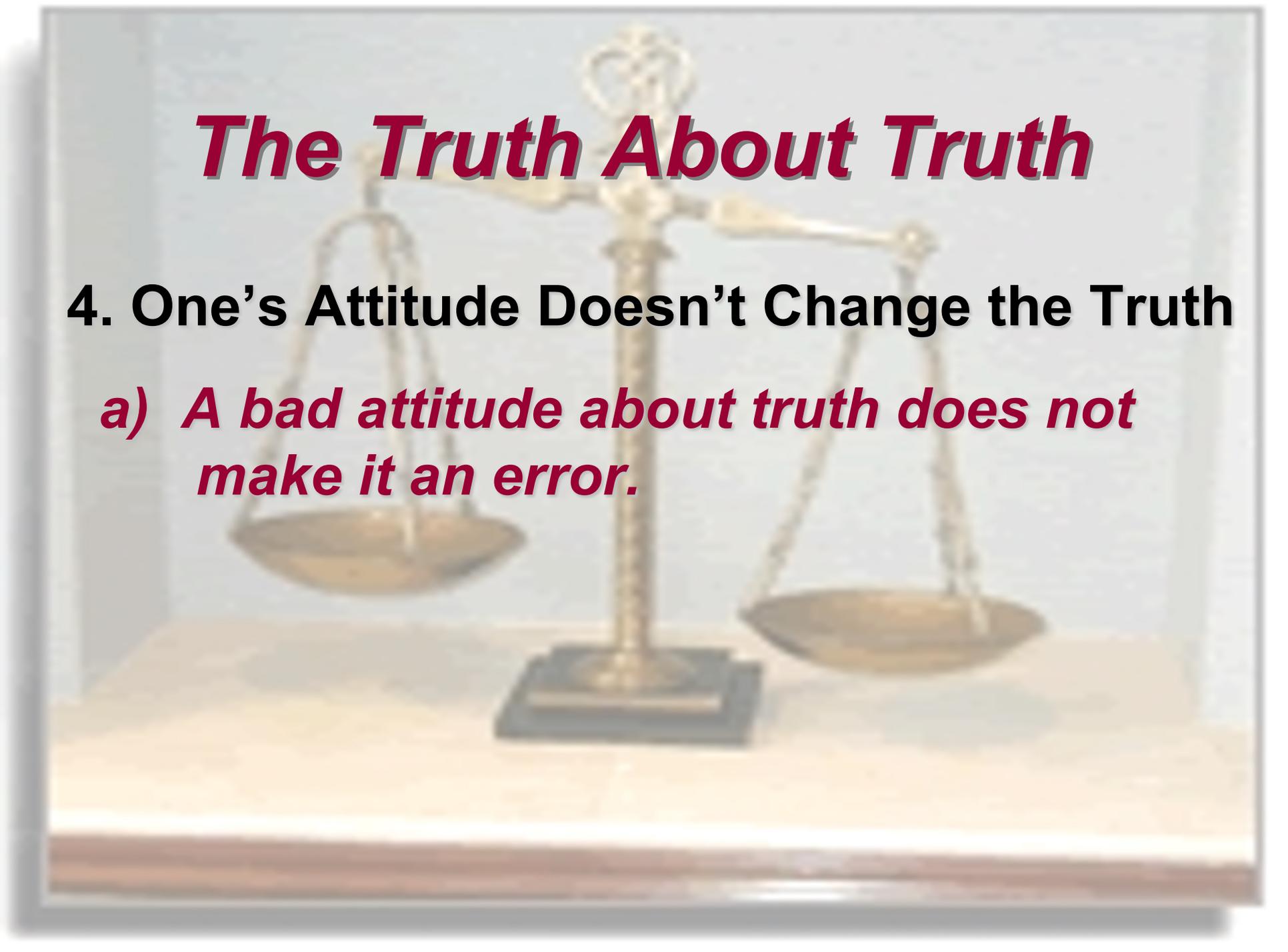
b) Being raised a racist doesn't make racism true.

The Truth About Truth

4. One's Attitude Doesn't Change the Truth



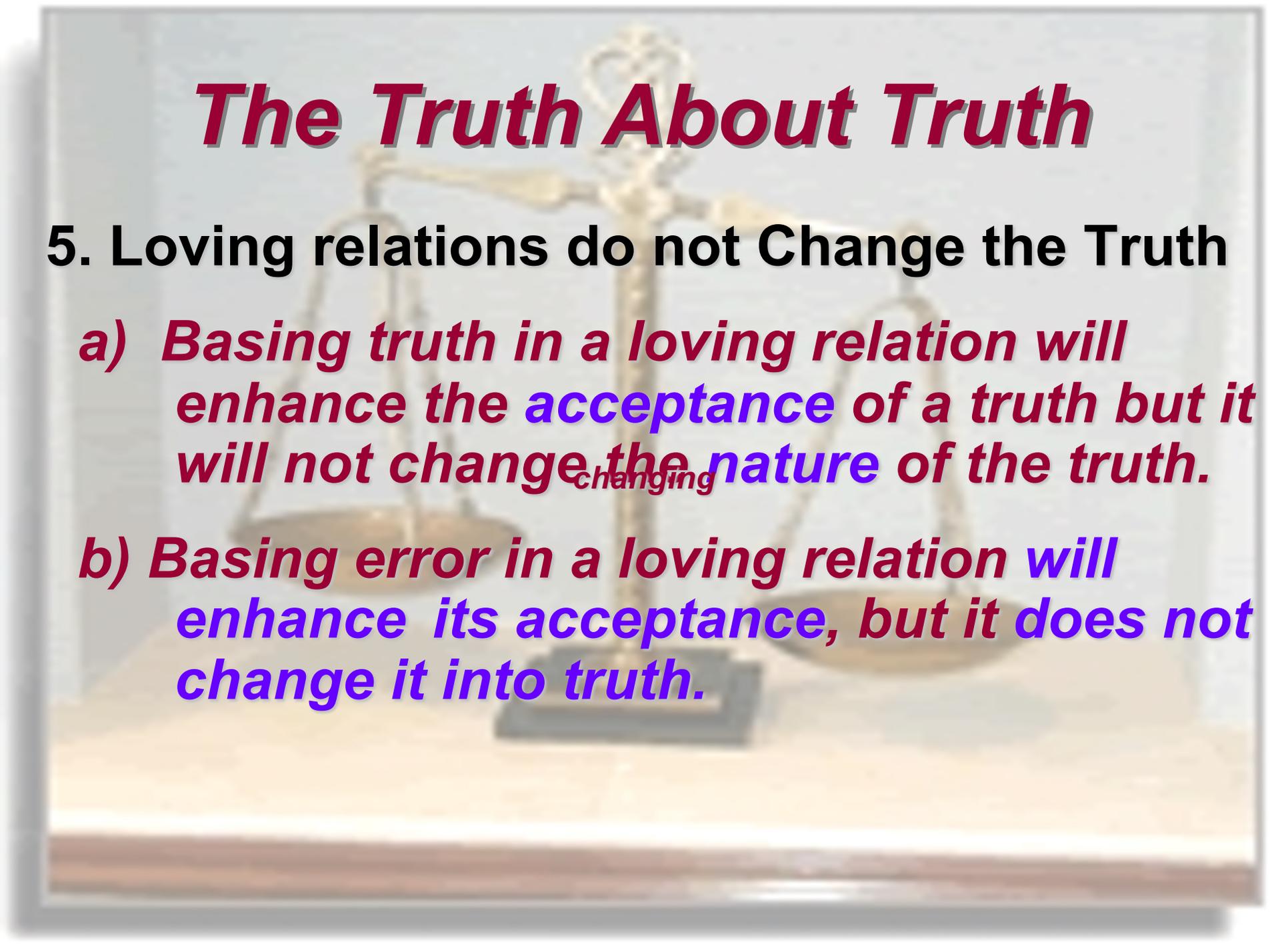
The Truth About Truth

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass and are mounted on a dark wooden base. The two pans are suspended from a central horizontal beam by thin chains. The scales are currently in a state of imbalance, with the right pan being lower than the left pan. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

4. One's Attitude Doesn't Change the Truth

a) A bad attitude about truth does not make it an error.

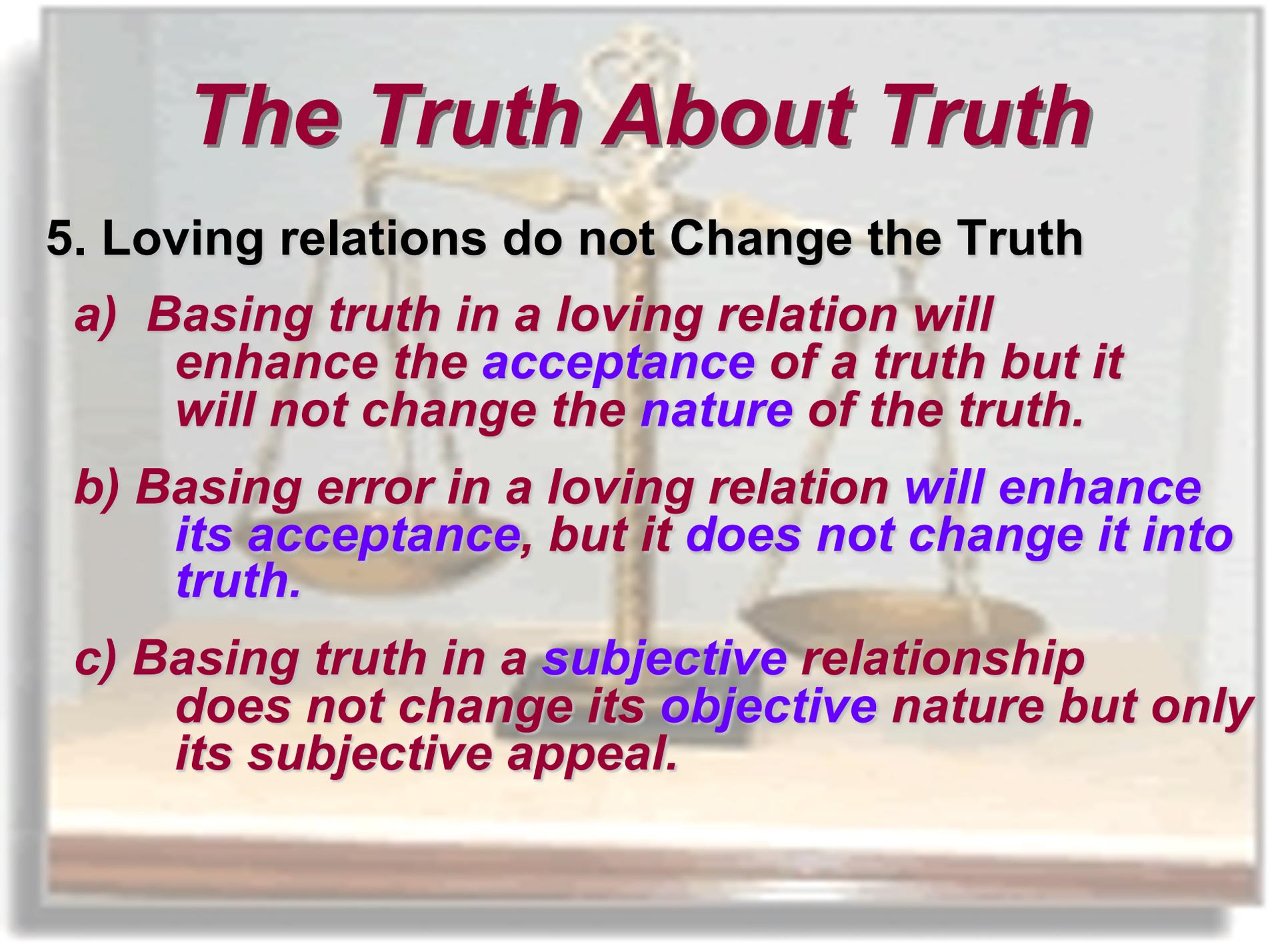
The Truth About Truth

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale is slightly out of focus, with the background being a light, neutral color. The scale's beam is horizontal, and the two pans are visible, though empty. The lighting is soft, highlighting the metallic texture of the scale.

5. Loving relations do not Change the Truth

- a) Basing truth in a loving relation will enhance the **acceptance** of a truth but it will not change ^{changing} the **nature** of the truth.*
- b) Basing error in a loving relation will enhance its **acceptance**, but it does not change it into truth.*

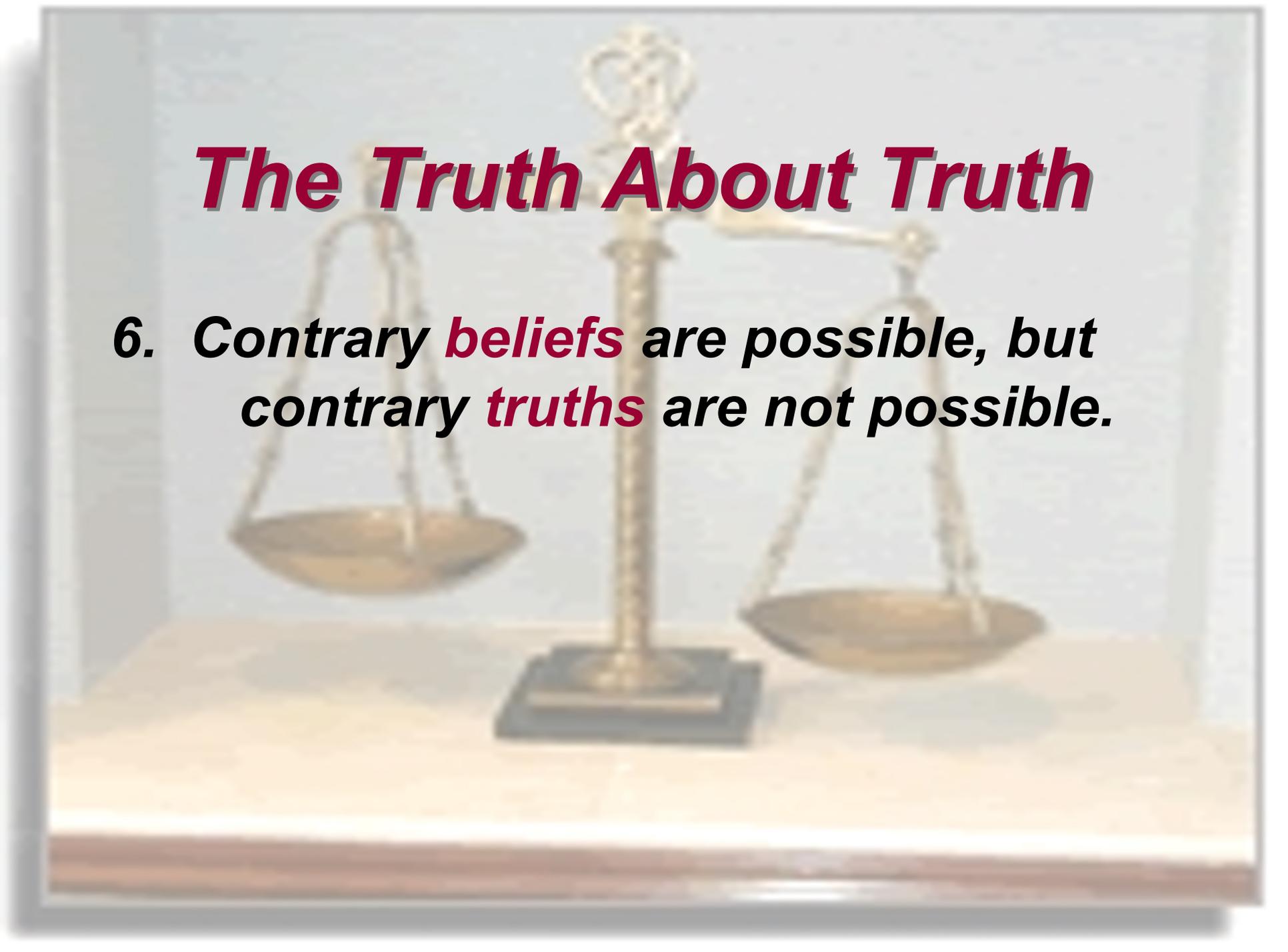
The Truth About Truth



5. Loving relations do not Change the Truth

- a) Basing truth in a loving relation will enhance the acceptance of a truth but it will not change the nature of the truth.*
- b) Basing error in a loving relation will enhance its acceptance, but it does not change it into truth.*
- c) Basing truth in a subjective relationship does not change its objective nature but only its subjective appeal.*

The Truth About Truth

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass and are mounted on a dark wooden base. The pans are empty and the scales are in a balanced position. The background is a light, neutral color.

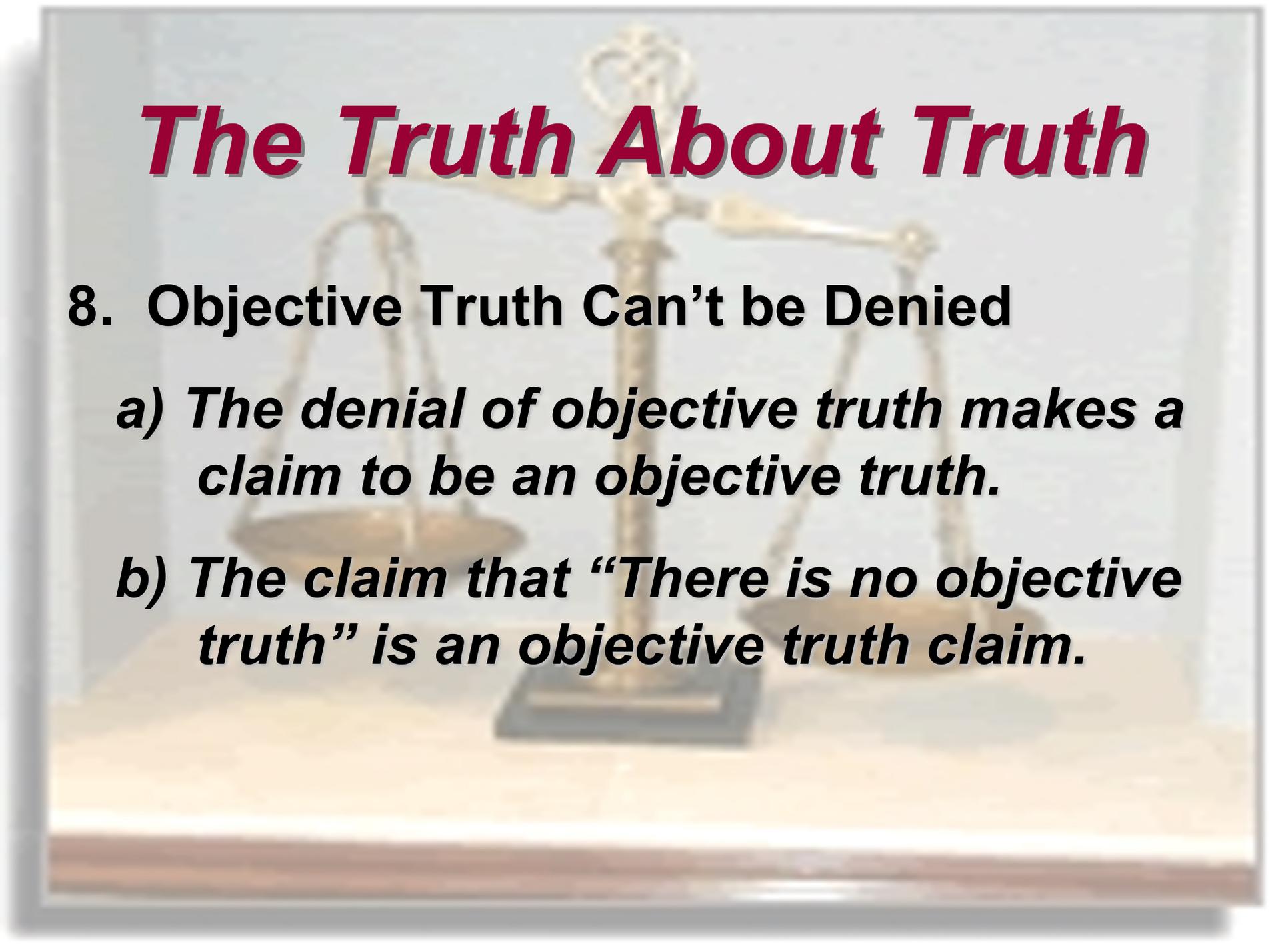
- 6. Contrary *beliefs* are possible, but contrary *truths* are not possible.**

The Truth About Truth

7. You can ***believe*** everything is true, but everything can't ***be*** true.



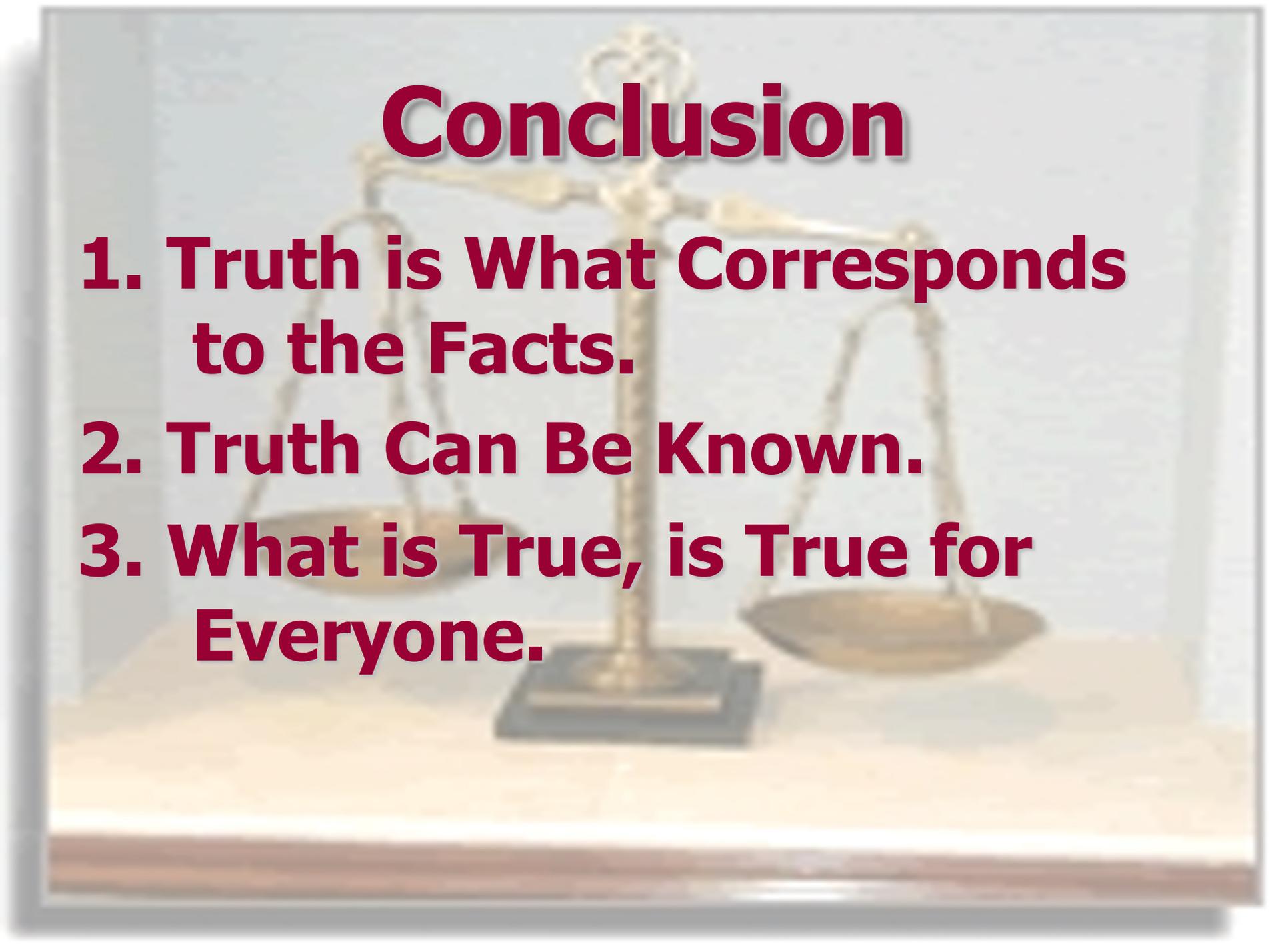
The Truth About Truth

A blurred background image of a golden scale of justice, symbolizing truth and balance. The scale is centered in the background, with its two pans hanging from a central beam. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is light and airy.

8. Objective Truth Can't be Denied

a) The denial of objective truth makes a claim to be an objective truth.

b) The claim that "There is no objective truth" is an objective truth claim.

A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, resting on a wooden surface. The scale is slightly out of focus, with the pans hanging down. The background is a light, neutral color.

Conclusion

- 1. Truth is What Corresponds to the Facts.**
- 2. Truth Can Be Known.**
- 3. What is True, is True for Everyone.**

Twelve Points that Show Christianity is true

1. Truth about reality is knowable.
2. **The opposite of true is false.**
3. It is true that the theistic God exists.
4. If God exists then miracles are possible.
5. Miracles can be used to confirm a message from God.
6. The New Testament is historically reliable.
7. The New Testament says Jesus claimed to be God.
8. Jesus' claim to be God was miraculously confirmed by:
 - a. His fulfillment of many prophecies about Himself;
 - b. His sinless and miraculous life;
 - c. His prediction and resurrection from the dead.
9. Therefore, Jesus is God.
10. Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true.
11. Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God.
12. Therefore, it is true that the Bible is the Word of God (and anything opposed to it is false).

2. The Opposite of True is False

I. What is Truth?

II. What is False?

III. Why Opposites Can't Both be True

IV. Why Opposite Religions Can't Both be True

V. Can One Religion be True?

VI. Answering Some Objections

Introduction



Are All Religions True?



***Krishna, Buddha, Jesus, Muhammad
— Is There Only One Way?***

Religious Pluralism

...is the belief that:

Opposing religions are true

All the sincere will be saved

All major roads lead to heaven

On the Roads Again

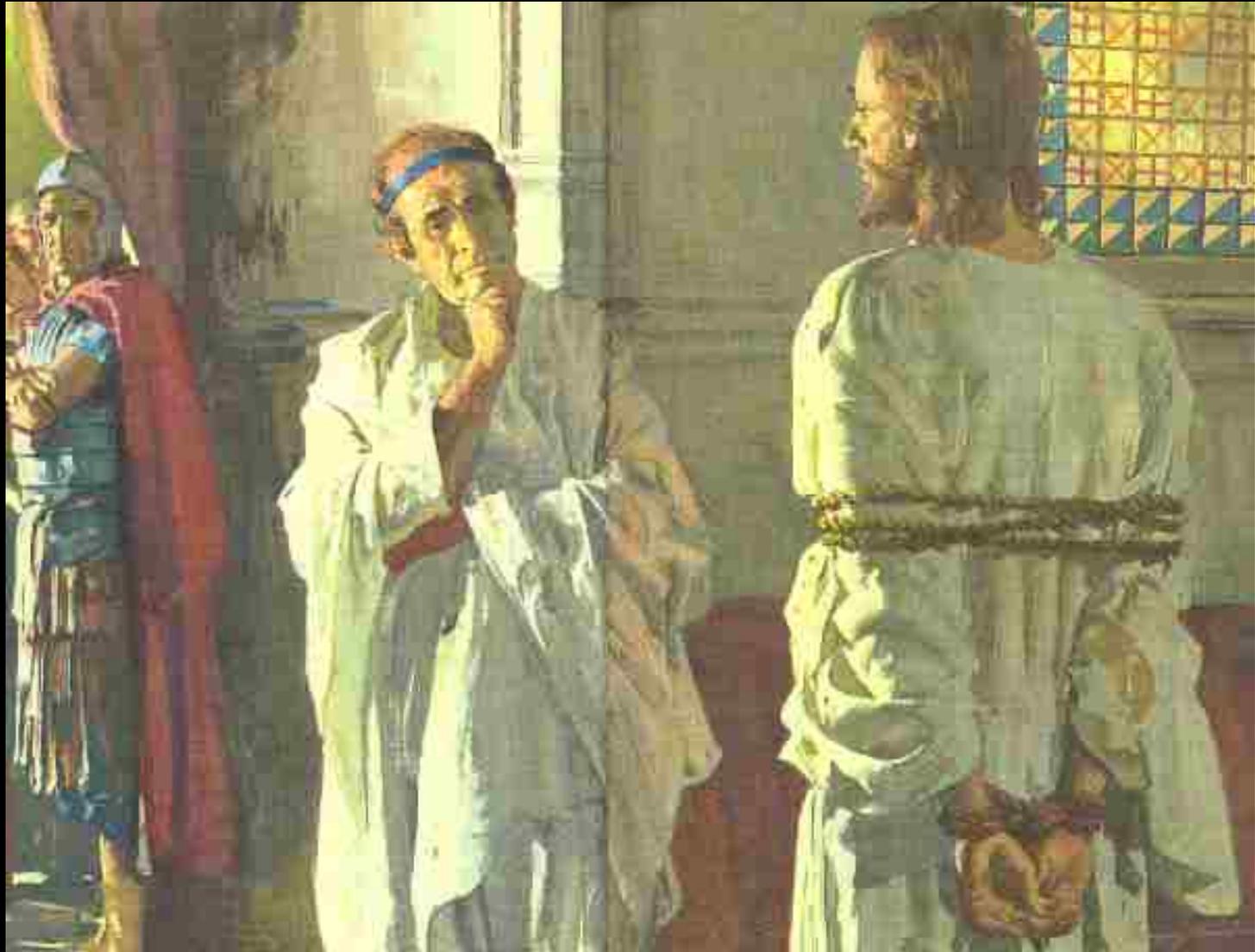


“I believe all roads lead to the same place. We’re taking different ways to get there, but we all end up in the same place. It’s kind of like Kinky Friedman’s statement, ‘May the God of your choice bless you.’ That’s the main thoughts that I have about life”
(Time 8/7/06, p. 6).

2. The Opposite of True is False

I. What is Truth?

What is Truth?



What is Truth?

Truth is what:

Corresponds to the facts

What is Truth?

Truth is what:

Corresponds to the facts

Matches its object

What is Truth?

Truth is what:

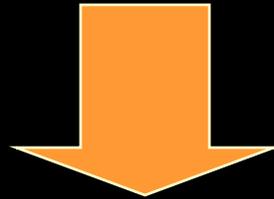
Corresponds to the facts

Matches its object

Tells it like it is

A true statement matches its object

“This object is a table.”



2. The Opposite of True is False

I. What is Truth?

II. What is False?

False is the opposite of true.

What is False?

False is what does not:

- Correspond to the facts*
- Match its object*
- Tell it like it is*

2. The Opposite of True is False

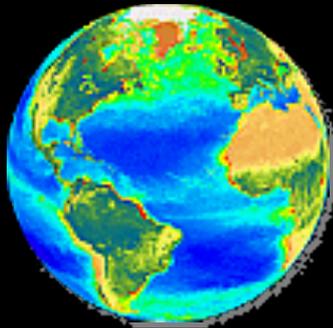
I. What is Truth?

II. What is False?

III. Why Opposites Can't Both be True

The Opposite of True is False ***(The Law of Non-Contradiction)***

***Opposite ideas cannot both be true
at the same time and in the same sense.***



**The Earth is
Round**



**The Earth is
not Round**

The Opposite of True is False: The Law of Non-Contradiction

It is undeniable. For it cannot be denied without being affirmed. For example,

1) The one who claims: “Contradictions can both be true” does not believe that the contradiction of that statement can also be true.

2) Or, the one who says “Opposites can both be true,” does not believe that the opposite of that statement can also be true.

The Opposite of True is False: The Law of Non-Contradiction

Sure-Fire Way to Convince a Skeptic!

“Anyone who denies the law of non-contradiction should be beaten and burned until he admits that to be beaten is not the same as not to be beaten, and to be burned is not the same as not to be burned.”

(Avicenna, Great Muslim Philosopher)

Opposites Can't Both Be True!



*"There's milk in
the frig."*



*"There is
not milk
in the frig."*

Opposites Can't Both Be True!



*"There's milk in
the frig."*



*"There is
not milk
in the frig."*

A Self-Defeating Argument!



Aim at Something Else and Hit Yourself!

A Self-Defeating Statement



“I don’t exist!”



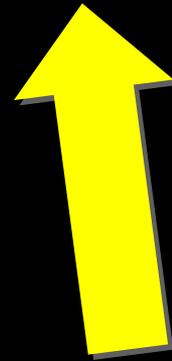
**“If he does not exist,
then who said that?”**



A Self-Defeating Statement



“Truth is not telling like it is!”



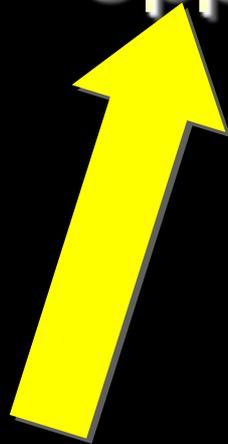
“Isn’t *that* telling it like it is?”



A Self-Defeating Statement



“Opposite can both be true.”



“Is the opposite of *that* true?”



The Tao is Beyond Thought



This is Self-defeating since:

1. It is a **thought** about what is **beyond thought**.
2. It is a **rational** statement about what is **beyond rational** statements.
3. Taoist don't believe that the **opposite** of the Tao is the **same** as the Tao.

2. The Opposite of True is False

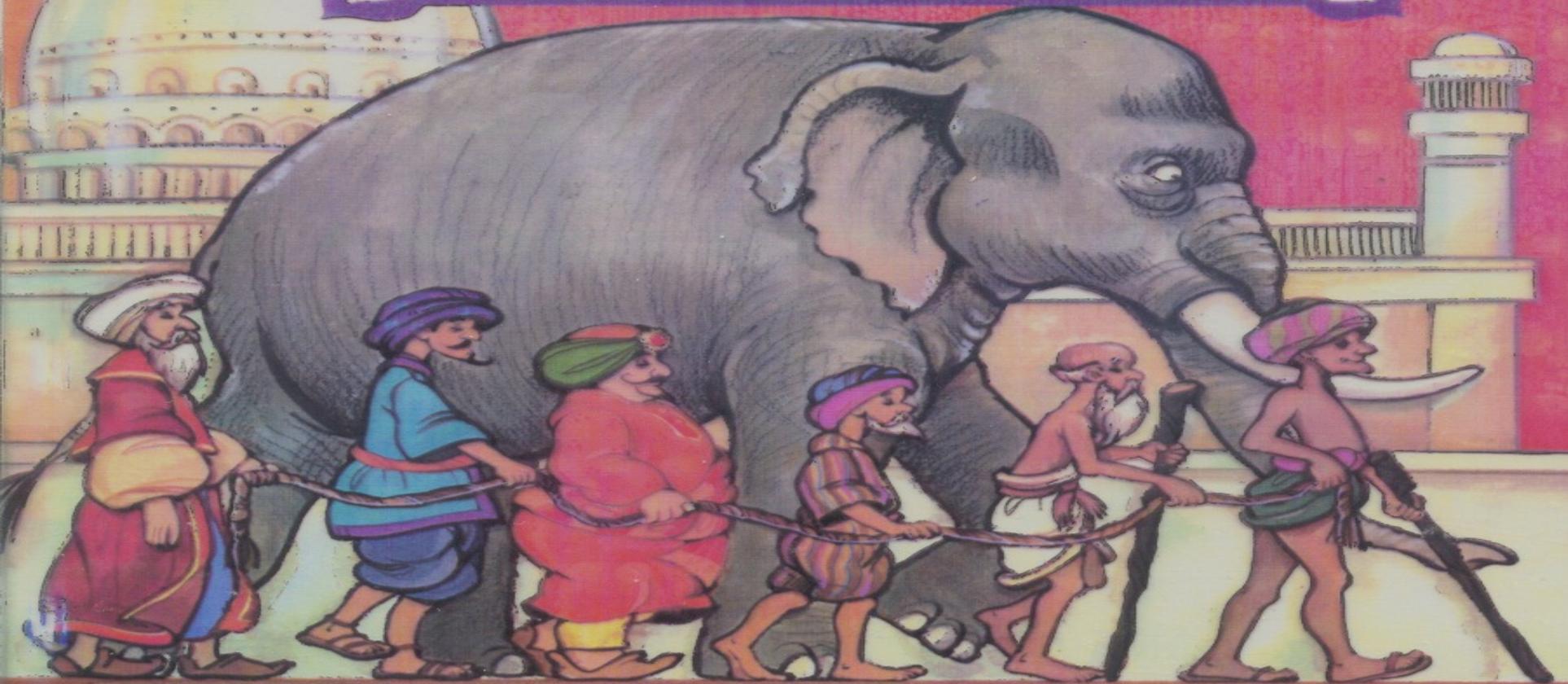
I. What is Truth?

II. What is False?

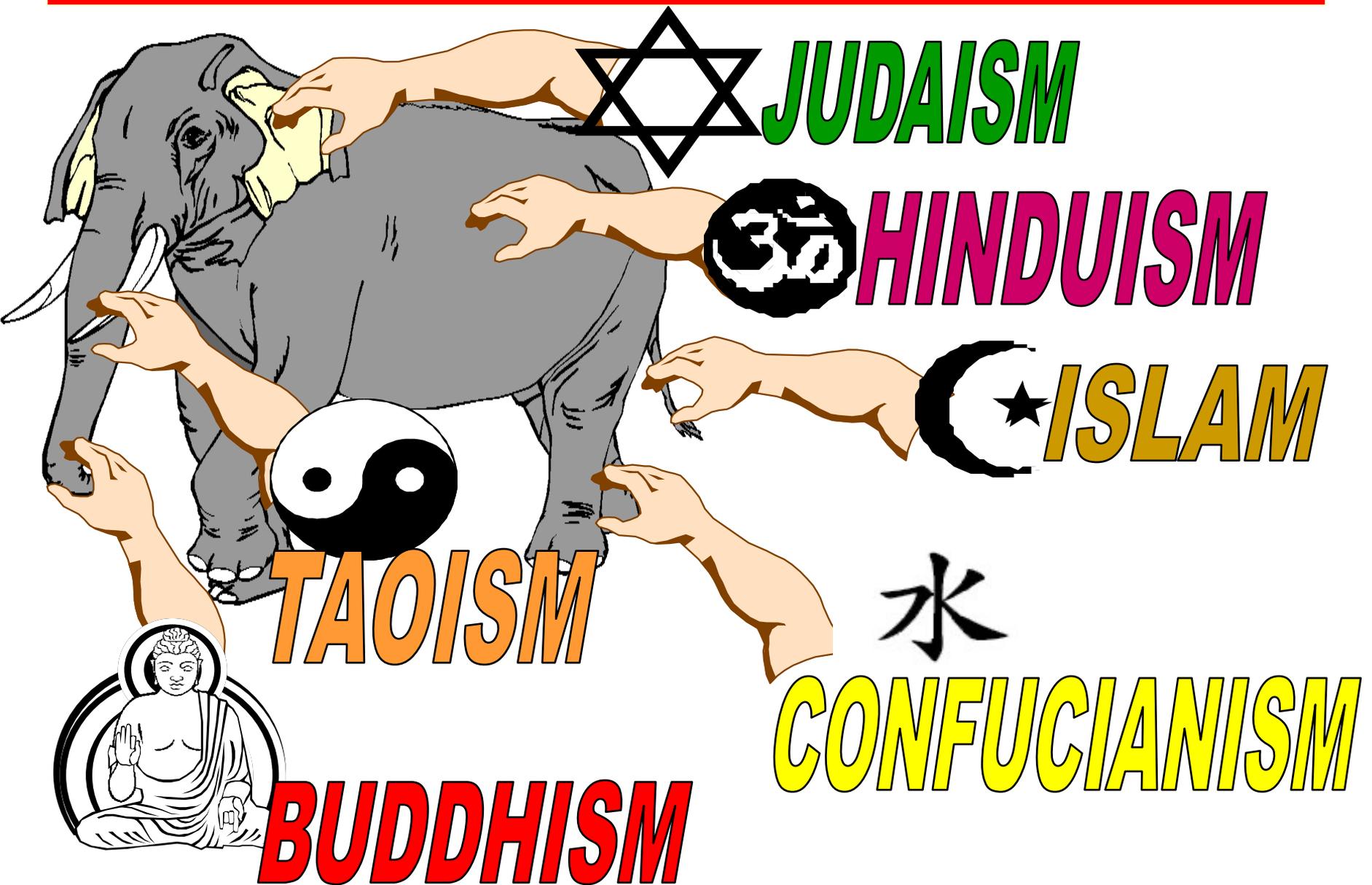
III. Why Opposites Can't Both be True

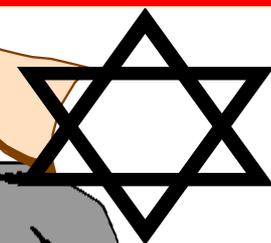
**IV. Why Opposite Religions Can't Both
be True**

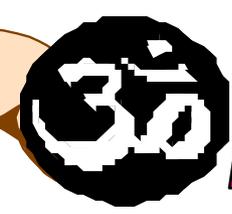
Six Blind Men and the Elephant

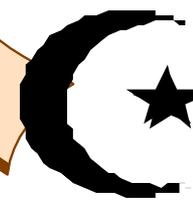


ARE ALL RELIGIONS TRUE?

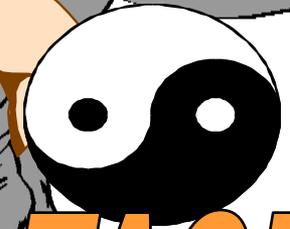


 **JUDAISM**

 **HINDUISM**

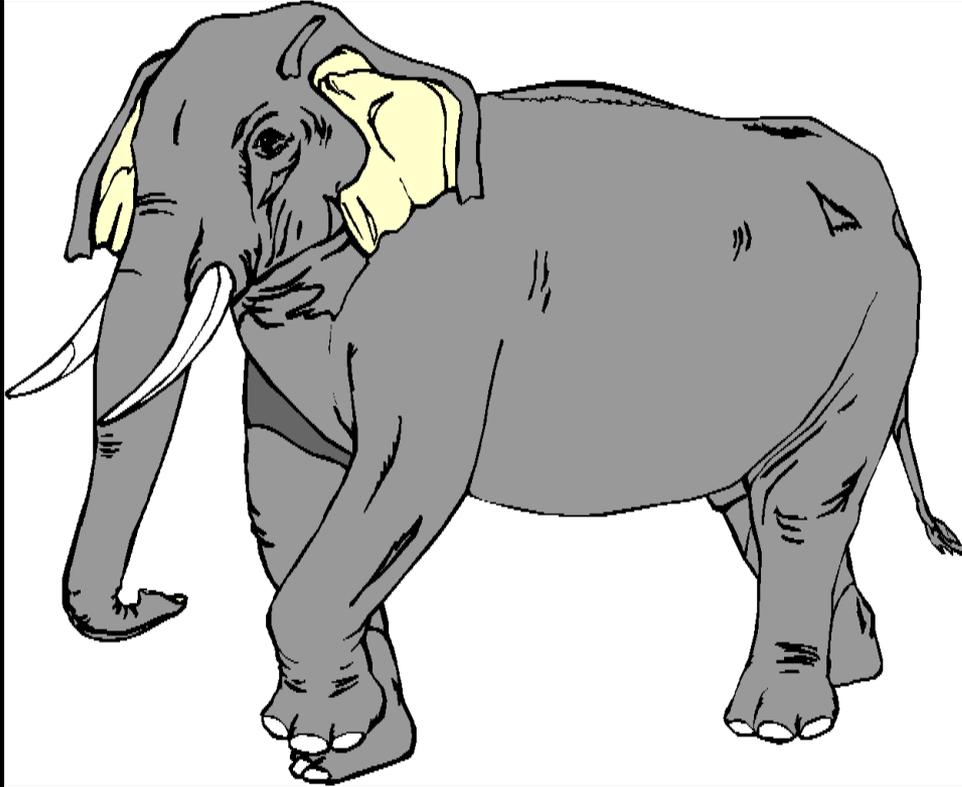
 **ISLAM**


CONFUCIANISM

 **TAOISM**

 **BUDDHISM**

No! They are All Wrong



*Except the
one with his
eyes open
to the truth!*

**The absolute truth is:
This is an elephant!**

All Religions Can't Be True: They Teach Opposites

Let's contrast:

Islam with Christianity



ISLAM

GOD: Only one person

HUMANITY: Good by nature

JESUS: Merely a man,
not God.

DEATH OF CHRIST: He
didn't die or rise again

BIBLE: Corrupted

SALVATION: By faith plus
works when good deeds
outweigh bad ones

CHRISTIANITY

GOD: 3 persons in one God

HUMANITY: Sinful by nature

JESUS: More than a man; He
was also God.

DEATH OF CHRIST: He died
and rose again in same body

BIBLE: Not corrupted

SALVATION: Not by works
but is a free gift of God for
all who believe

But Don't They Have Things in Common?

Yes. But so do counterfeit
and a genuine \$20 Bill.

- 1) *Both are paper.*
- 2) *Both are rectangular.*
- 3) *Both have a "20" on them.*

But one is a counterfeit!

How to Tell a Counterfeit

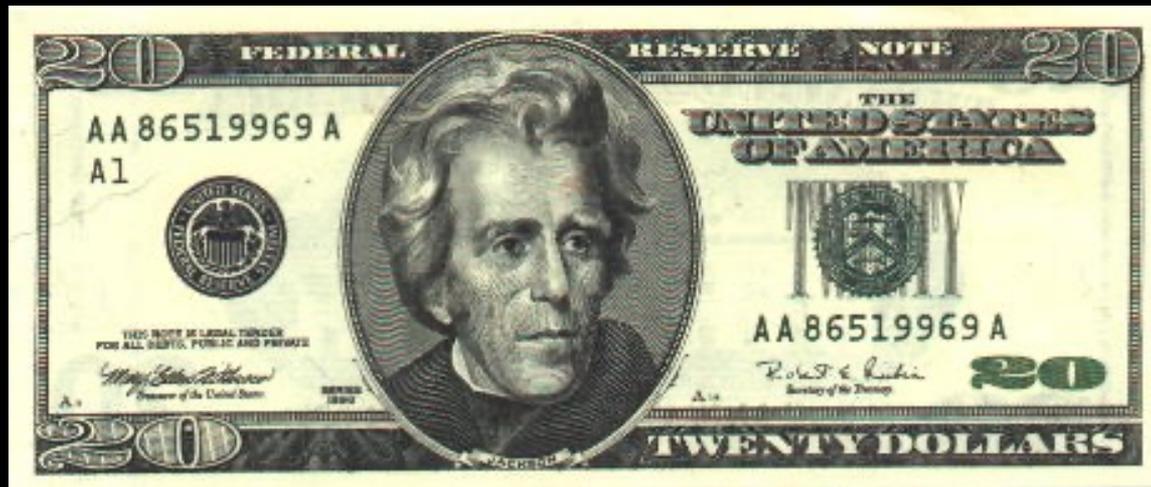
Not by superficial similarities



How to Tell a Counterfeit

Not by superficial similarities

But by crucial differences



Can All Religions Be True?

- 1. Can *all* religions be true: No, they teach opposites! And opposites can't both be true.**
- 2. Can *one* religion be true: Yes, if we take off our blinders and see which religion corresponds to reality.**
- 3. Do other religions have *some* truth? Yes, but since the opposite of true is false, if one religion is true, then all opposing beliefs in all other religions are false.**

2. The Opposite of True is False

I. What is Truth?

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III. Why Opposites Can't Both be True

**IV. Why Opposite Religions Can't Both
be True**

V. Can One Religion be True?

Is There Really Only--



Can There be Only One Way?

A. All Views Can't be False.

- 1. There are opposite views, and both can't be false (so, one is true).**
- 2. $2 + 2 = \text{something}$; all answers aren't wrong.**
- 3. "Nothing is true" claims to be true.**
- 4. "Nothing is true" = nothing is real (which is self-defeating)**

B. So, at least one view must be true.

C. The true view corresponds to reality.

2. The Opposite of True is False

I. What is Truth?

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VI. Answering Some Objections

Answering Some Objections

- **Objection 1: This is a narrow view**
- **Response: All truth is narrow; it excludes everything opposed to it.**
- **1. “Pluralism is true” is narrow (It excludes all non-pluralisms).**
- **2. “Atheism is true” is narrow (It excludes all non-atheistic views).**
- **3. “Skepticism is true” is narrow (It excludes all non-skepticisms).**
- **“Narrow” does not mean narrow-minded.**
- **One should be open-minded to the truth (which by its nature is narrow).**

Answering Some Objections

Objection 2: This is an unfair view since not everyone knows the way to the true God.

Response: Everyone knows the basic truth about God.

a) *“For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For His invisible attributes, namely his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse”* (Rom. 1:19-20).

b) *“For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law.... For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves.... They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts...”* (Rom. 2:12-15).

- c) **“The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows his handiwork” (Psa. 19:1).**
- d) **“Yet he did not leave himself without witness for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons...” (Acts 14:17).**
- e) **“Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for in him we live and move and have our being.... For we are indeed his offspring... [and so] we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver, an image formed by the art and imagination of man” (Acts 17:27-29).**
- f) **Mbiti (*African Religions*) showed that African religions believe that there is one God (monotheism).**
- g) **Wilhelm Schmidt, (*High Gods in North America*) showed monotheism was the original religion.**

Win Corduan, *In the Beginning God: A Fresh Look at the Case for Original Monotheism.*

- h) **Early Middle East *Elba Tablets* also depict monotheism.**

Answering Some Objections

Objection 3: It is unjust to condemn unbelievers for what they do not know.

Response:

- 1) Everyone knows the basic truth about God.
- 2) Those who seek God, find Him.
- 3) Those who reject the light they have are justly judged.
“Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?” (Gen. 18:25).
“For God shows no partiality” (Rom. 2:11).
- 4) Those who seek the light, get sufficient light to be saved
“In every nation anyone who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him” (Acts 10:35).

Answering Some Objections

Objection 4: Won't God save sincere people in other religions who want to be saved? (like Jews, Muslims, and others)?

Response:

- 1) One is not saved by being sincere: *“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death”* (Prov. 14:12; 16:25).
- 2) One can be sincerely wrong: *“For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God”* (Rom. 10:3).

Objection 5: Other religions believe that there is only one God (like Judaism and Islam).

Response: 1) One is not saved by merely believing that one God exists. The demons believe that (Js. 2:19).

2) Today, one must believe in Christ, the only way to God.

Jn. 14:6—*“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

Jn. 8:24—*“Jesus said, ‘Unless you believe that I am he, you will die in your sins.’”*

Jn. 3:18—*“Whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”*

Acts 4:12—*“Neither is there salvation in any other for there is no other name under heaven, given among men, by which we must be saved.”*

1 Tim. 2:5—*“There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.”*

Objection 6: What About those who have never heard? Is it just to condemn them?

Response:

- 1) **There are no people who have not heard about God (through general revelation) in nature (Rom. 1:19-20) and conscience (Rom. 2:12-15).**
- 2) **Those who seek the light they have will be given the light they need to be saved.**
 - a) ***“For whoever would draw near to God must first believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him” (Heb. 11:6).***
“You will seek me and find me. When you seek me with all your heart, I will be found” (Jer. 29:13).
 - b) ***“God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him” (Acts 10:35).***

- c) Those who do not know right from wrong (e. g., infants, mentally deficient) are not lost.**
- 1) Isaiah speaks of those who know **“how to refuse the evil and choose the good”** (Isa. 7:15).
 - 2) Moses refers to **“your little ones...and your children, who today have no knowledge of good or evil...”** (Deut. 1:39).
 - 3) Paul affirms **Christ provided salvation for “all” human beings** (Rom. 5:18-19 cf. 1 Jn. 2:2).
 - 4) Jesus said, **“let the little children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God”** (Mk. 10:14).
 - (Lk. 18:15 uses the word *brephos*, **“infants”** as well).

Biblical Illustrations:

1. God sent Jonah to Nineveh (Jonah 3).
2. God sent a dream and Daniel (Dan. 4:1, 19) to Nebuchadnezzar who was converted (v. 34).
3. God sent Peter to Cornelius (Acts 10).
4. God will send an angel to everyone on earth during the Tribulation (Rev. 14:6):

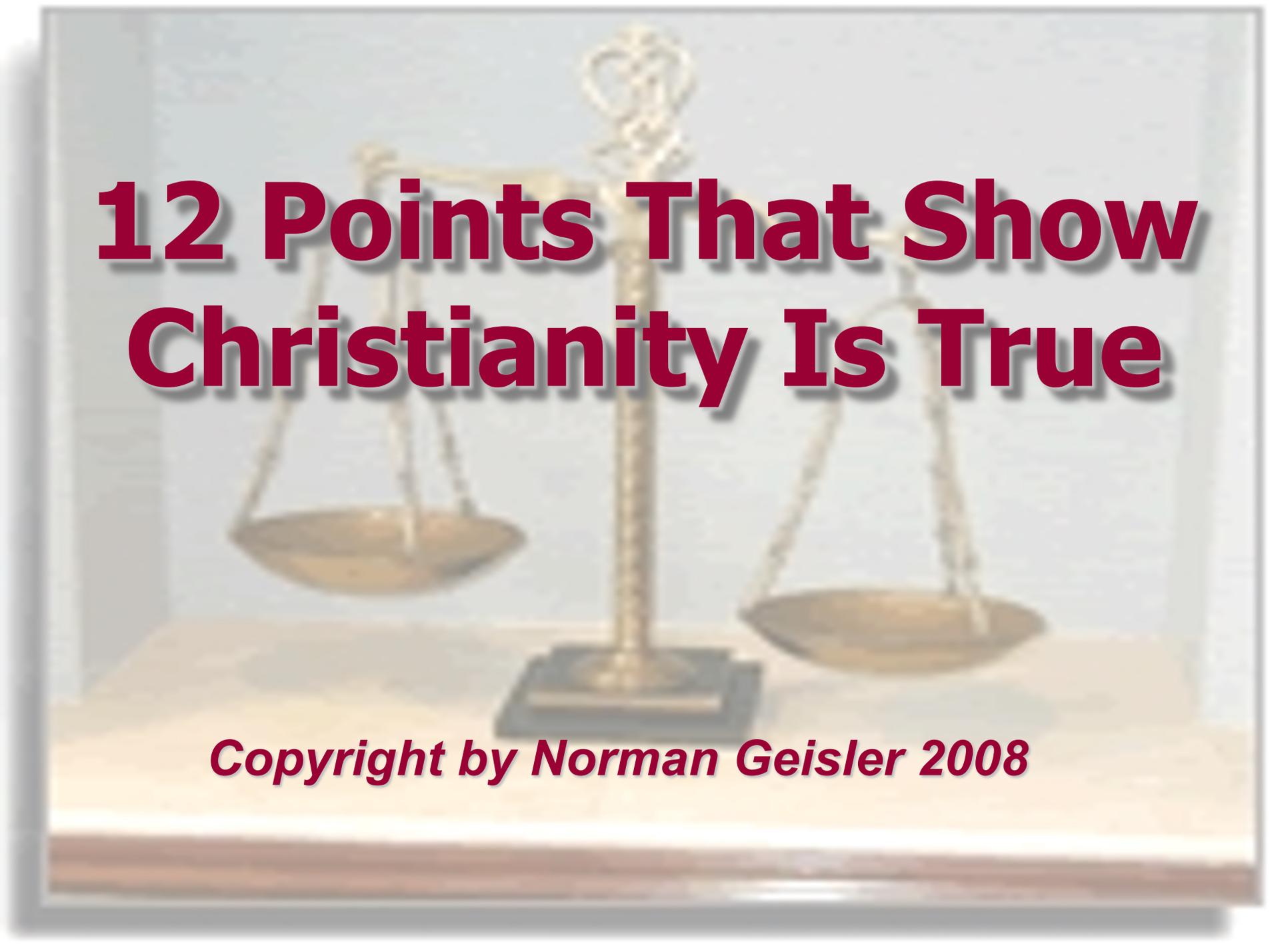
*“I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an **eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth, to every nation and tribe and language of people.**”*

Other Illustrations

1. Samuel Morris, *The March of Faith*
2. Russian Girl seeking God
3. Chinese Student seeking God
4. Many Muslims getting visions of Jesus

Note: God is more interested in bringing us the light than we are in receiving it since—

“Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil” (John 3:19).

A pair of golden scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass or gold, with two pans hanging from a central beam. The entire scene is set on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

12 Points That Show Christianity Is True

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