

Truth Parts I & II

Knowing and Loving the Truth

Chad Cogburn
10 November 2019

Psalms 119:160

The entirety of Your word *is* truth, And every one of
Your righteous judgments *endures* forever.

What is Truth?

Truth def*:

1. *the quality or state of being true*

True def*:

1. *Conformable to fact, being in accordance with the actual state of things*
2. *Genuine, pure, real*
3. *Faithful*
4. *Just*
5. *Honest*
6. *Exact*
7. *Straight*

*Websters 1939

God is Truth

Moses's song

Deut 32:4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.

- ▶ God is Truth
- ▶ God is the source of all Truth
- ▶ “His work is perfect”

Titus 1:2 ...which God, who cannot lie...

Hebrews 6:18...in which it is impossible for God to lie...

- ▶ Truth is part of God’s nature; Just as he is righteous, holy, love, good, He’s also truth

Truth is Constant

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

- ▶ God's Truth is constant, it doesn't change
- ▶ Not at liberty to re-write God's word for any reason
 - Culturally relevant
 - Difficult to accept
 - Must rightly divided with HS as a guide
- ▶ *Prov 30:5 Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. 6 Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.*
- ▶ *Rev 22:18 If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part...*

Manifestations of God's Truth

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

John 15:26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth...

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

Psalms 119:160 The entirety of Your word is truth...

Psalms 33:4 For the word of the LORD is right, And all His work is done in truth.

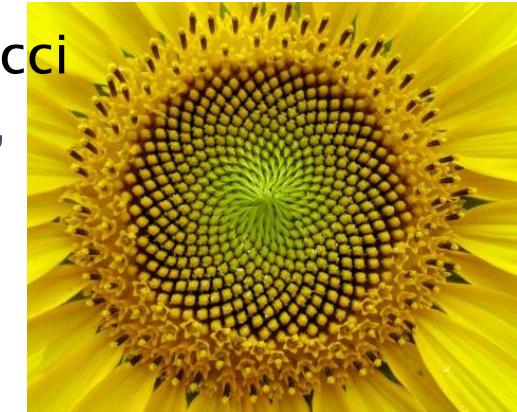
- ▶ *God's work takes many forms and its all around us.*

Fibonacci Numbers

Fibonacci number sequence: 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, etc.

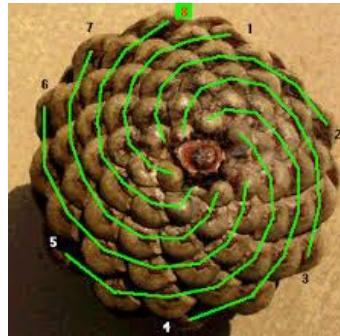
Golden ratio = $55/34 = 1.618$

Named after Italian mathematician Leonardo Bonacci

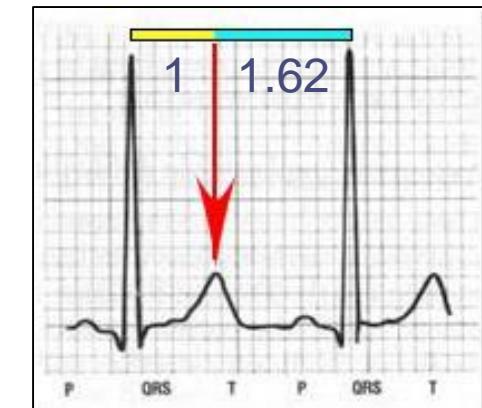


- ▶ “Sunflowers consulted Fibonacci for optimization”
- ▶ So, next time you are walking in the garden, look for the Golden Angle, and count petals and leaves to find Fibonacci Numbers, and discover how clever the plants are”
- ▶ “The coolest thing that ever happened to math”
 - National Museum of Mathematics
- ▶ “The Fibonacci numbers are Nature's numbering system.”
 - University of Georgia
 - Who came up with the “Nature’s numbering system”?
 - Most mathematicians don’t get past the truth in numbers and give credit to the author of math itself!
 - Where is the Fear of God?

Fibonacci Numbers in Nature



Golden Ratio and the Human Heart



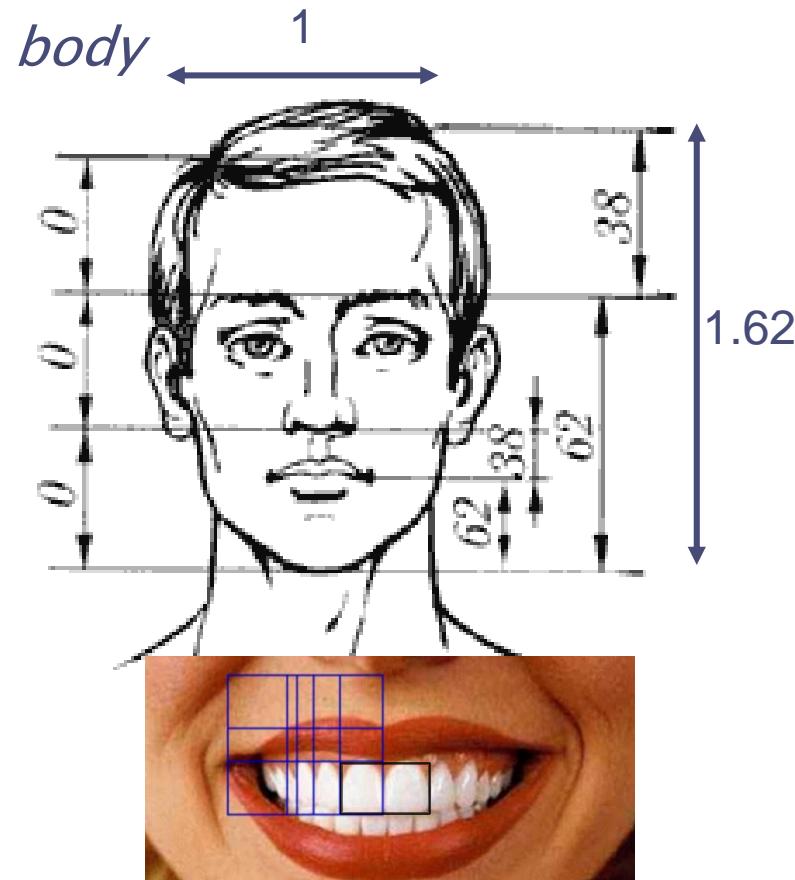
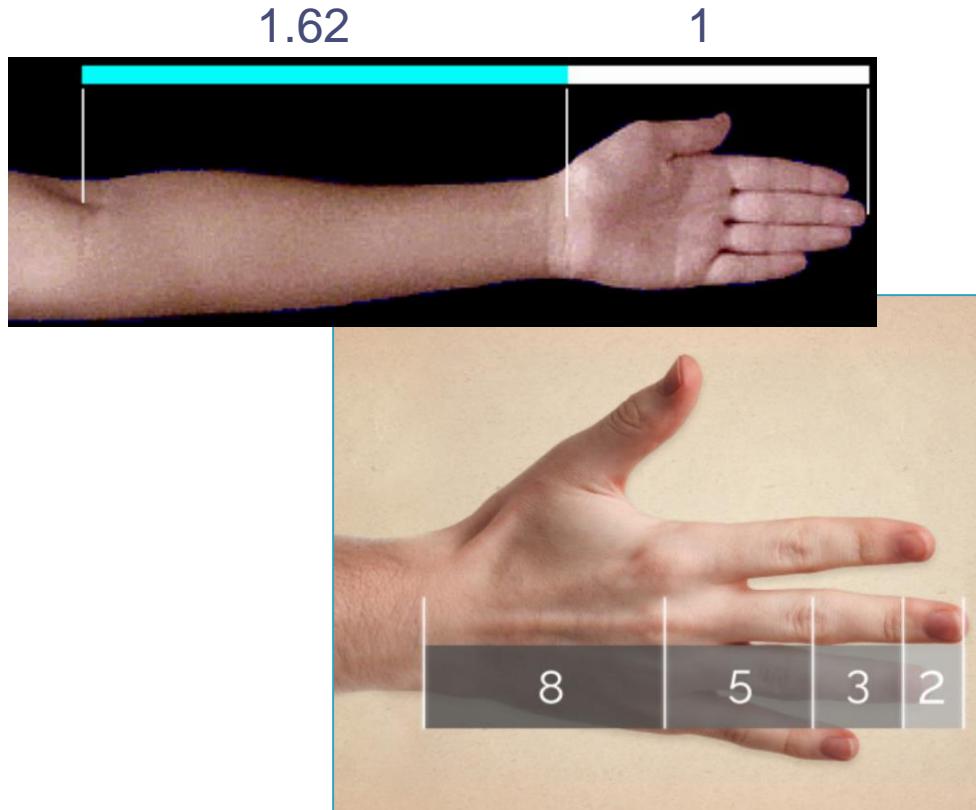
Cardiac ratio = 1.6183^* EKG: golden ratio in ventricle cycles

Psalms 37:31 The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide. – God's law is truly in the human heart!

Normal Blood Pressure Ratio $\left[\frac{\text{systolic}}{\text{diastolic}} \right] \sim 1.6$

Fibonacci Numbers in Nature

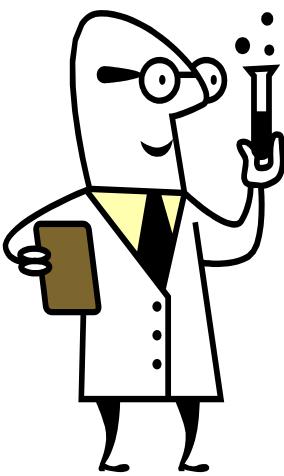
- *Golden ratio is the most aesthetically pleasing*
 - *Often used in art and architecture*
 - *God used it extensively in the human body*



Psalm 139:14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

Why is the water phase diagram true?

The scientists did great work! We now know the truth about water.

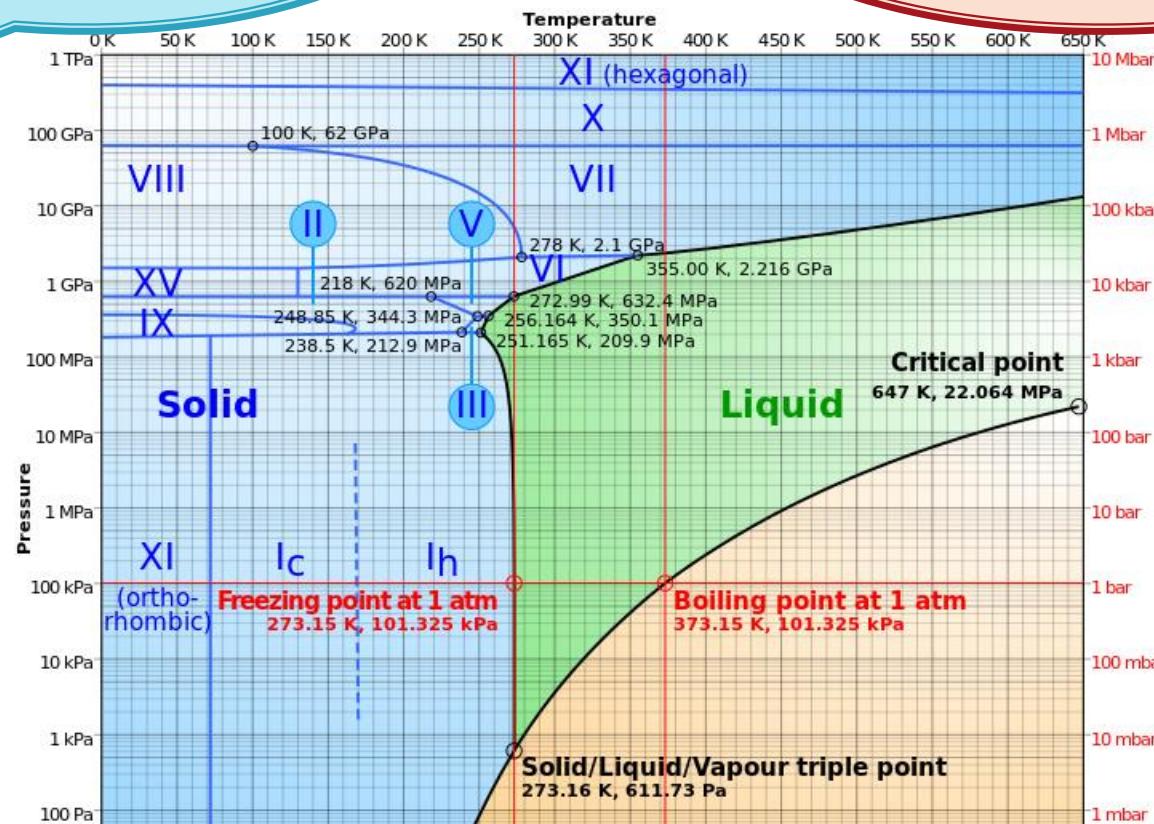


Natural Man

What amazing design of God! The behavior of water declares the source of Truth!



Truth



Psalms 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

The Truth Shall Make You Free

John 8:31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³²And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” ³³They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How *can* You say, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵And a slave does not abide in the house forever, *but* a son abides forever. ³⁶Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

- ▶ Their first response “WE are Abraham’s descendants..” it was all about them
- ▶ The Truth doesn’t free us to do our own thing; rather it frees us from doing our own thing to serve God!
 - We are not here to seek our own truth (be your own man)
 - But rather to confirm His Truth (we belong to Him!)

Let God Be True

Rom 3:1 What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. 3 For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? 4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND MAY OVERCOME WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED."

- ▶ Jews were falling to unbelief...but God promised Abraham would become a great nation! (Gen 12:2) But HOW?
- ▶ The church was born, invitation is open to all!
- ▶ God's word is true, even when it doesn't seem possible
 - Mysteries of God, hard teachings, apparent contradictions
 - If I don't understand something, just assume God is right

Receive the Love of the Truth

2 Thessalonians 2:9 The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,
¹⁰and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish,
because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹²that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

- ▶ Does truth compel us to salvation and holiness? If not, the love of the truth is missing.
- ▶ Do we love (agape) the truth? (don't have to like it, just love it)
- ▶ The truth is not always be easy, but it is always good.
- ▶ Love the Truth, No Matter What!
- ▶ “People can’t change the truth, but the truth can change people” – author unknown

Measure of Truth

Truth:

1. *Conformable to fact, being in accordance with the actual state of things*



Good Example – David

- ▶ David sins by taking Bathsheba for his wife (2 Sam 11)
- ▶ 2 Sam 12 Prophet Nathan tells David a story of a rich man stealing the only lamb from a poor man and served it to a guest.

2 Sam 12:5 So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! 6 And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

2 Sam 12:7 Nathan said to David, "You *are* the man!..."

- ▶ David had 2 choices when confronted with the truth
 - Embrace the truth
 - Harden his heart

2 Sam 12:13 So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

Loving Truth → God's mercy and blessings

Business Example

- ▶ California passed Prop103 on Nov 8, 1988; mandated a 20% reduction in auto insurance premiums & refunds to customers
- ▶ Inflicted severe financial damage on Progressive Insurance, 25% of its business in California
- ▶ Peter Lewis, CEO, sought out the truth – “Why did this happen?”
 - The answer: People hated dealing with insurance companies.
- ▶ Response
 - Peter challenged his staff to create a better company
 - Immediate response claims service, 24/7 availability
 - Mobile service dispatched to customer homes or accident scene
 - Issue claim checks in 24hrs
- ▶ Result – Progressive went from #13 (1988) to #4 (2002).
 - Peter Lewis called Prop 103 “the best thing that ever happened to this company”
 - Loving Truth → Much stronger company

Bad Example – Cain

Genesis 4:3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. **4** Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, **5** but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. **6** So the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? **7** If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it.”

- ▶ Truth 1 – Problem: Your offering is not acceptable vs.5
- ▶ Truth 2 – Solution: Do well → be accepted; Do evil → sin rules you
- ▶ Cain’s Decision: Reject the truth, react out of jealousy, self preservation, revenge, etc.
- ▶ Cain murders Able & suffers lifelong curse

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness

The Whole Truth

- ▶ God already knows the truth about us...do we?
- ▶ 1st step to fixing a problem is honesty

Example: The woman with a blood disease

Mark 5:32 And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. ³³But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. ³⁴And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.”

- ▶ “the whole truth” – Jesus knew this woman’s story, but he wanted her to verbalize it
- ▶ Loving the truth leads to healing and God’s blessing

“You Can't Manage What You Don't Measure”

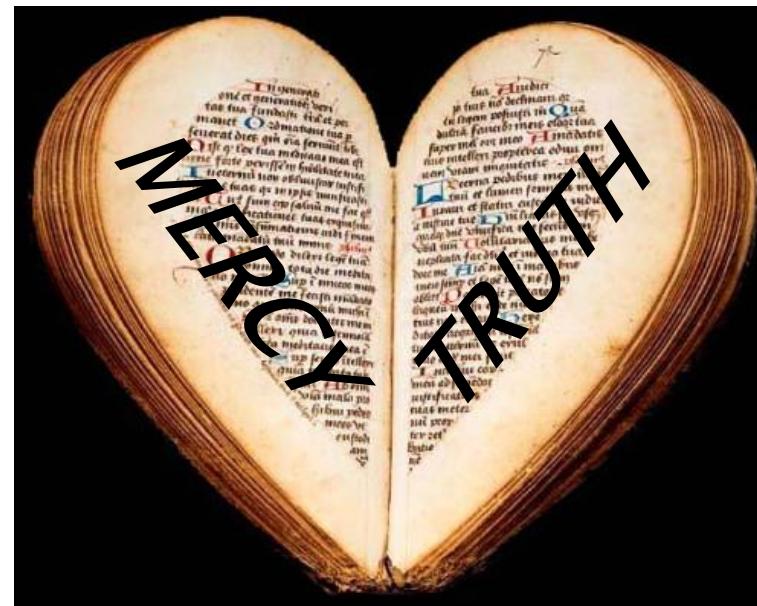
- ▶ Measurement reveals true condition and identifies deficiencies – Very valuable
- ▶ God's measurement tools
 - Scripture: profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness (2 Tim 3:16, Heb 4:12)
 - Holy Spirit, elders, parents, church (all accountability) (Rom 15:14, James 5:16)
 - God speaks truth into our lives for our good!
- ▶ God's correction tools: chastisement, admonition, rebuke, conscience, grace, divine nature (1 Pet 1:4)

2 Cor 7:1...perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Q: Am we willing to measure our lives by God's standards and embrace the result?

In Closing...

Proverbs 3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart



Love the Truth...No Matter What!