

Ronald L. Dart Ministries



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NEWSLETTER

June 2018

What's True?

Edited from "To Know the Truth" by Ronald L. Dart

So how can we ever know, with the absolute flood of information coming our way these days, what's true and what's not? How can we know when we're being manipulated? How can we know when someone is trying to lead us down the garden path? I'll give you two words and an idea. The first word, a new one that you can baffle your friends with, is "epistemology." Epistemology is a branch of philosophy that deals with knowledge, especially with regard to methods, validity, and scope of knowledge. It comes from the Greek word, *epistanai*, which means to put the mind upon, to comprehend, to be acquainted with, to know, to understand. The second word is "wisdom." A person is said to be wise when he has, or shows, a combination of experience, knowledge, and good judgment. The idea is your world view.

Epistemology and Wisdom

Epistemology is a high-sounding word that merely stands for how we know things. When God made man, he sat back and looked at him and said, "That's good; that's very good." What he gave man was a mind that operates on certain principles of knowing things. We come with a built-in epistemology—a built-in way of detecting the truth. We often say, for example, something has the "ring of truth."

Our entire legal system is based on the assumption that there is truth, and that man is capable of recognizing it and discerning it. It may be a person testifying on the witness stand or the lawyers presenting evidence that form an impression in our minds of what is true and what is not. We know when a piece of evidence is relevant and when it is not. How do we tell when a person is lying and when he's telling the truth? We tell by his body language, his demeanor, his expressiveness. We can tell whether he looks nervous or

not. We notice his eyes, his arms, his legs, how he moves. Also, we are somehow able to recognize the presence of truth, and the absence of truth, in the structure of what we are being told. It's one of the reasons why most of us don't go chasing after conspiracy theories. Our built-in epistemology tells us, "No, that's not how the world works." "No, that can't happen." "No, that wouldn't happen that way." Truth has a shape and a form that we are quite capable of recognizing.

The second word was wisdom—that combination of experience, knowledge, and good judgment that allows us to make sense out of things. We look at something, evaluate it, and decide, "Yes, that will work," or "No, it won't."

Love the Truth

In another time and place, the great Apostle Paul spoke of this. He said, "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth. . . ." That's a concept to live by: To have the love of the truth. When that gets corrupted, it's over. Paul goes on to say, ". . . that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them

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Radio Update

CAPP 99.6 FM Benin Republic Radio Outreach

Michael Porter leads the Christian outreach in Benin Republic and adjoining countries. He is a former Muslim who heard about the Sabbath and the Gospel message through the 7th-Day Adventist Church. He then came into contact with Margaret Dyer. She sent him a Ron Dart audio disc and, after hearing the message, his eyes were opened spiritually as to who Jesus truly is and to God's Law, holy days, and so much more. He recently updated CEM on the status of CAPP 99.6 FM radio in the Benin Republic.

“God has blessed this outreach! Over 80 percent of the Beninese and Togolese are Voodoo worshippers and the *Born to Win* broadcast is reaching thousands of them with life-changing knowledge of forgiveness and redemption through Christ—many have been baptized and lives changed through the *Born to Win* radio outreach on CAPP 99.6.

“By God's grace since the inception of the radio outreach in 2005 two churches have been created in Togo Republic and six in Benin Republic (mostly in the rural areas of Benin). We also have a house fellowship in Niger Republic born from the *Born to Win* radio broadcast and we have two in the neighboring country of Nigeria. Many baptisms have

resulted from the *Born to Win* radio outreach and all of them have accepted Jesus and are doing well in our congregations.

“We have been off the air since January. The radio station was off the air several months due to a maintenance shut down. The station is up and running now; however, the *Born to Win* program is no longer heard due to a lack of funding. When the *Born to Win* program was airing we typically received 15 or more responses from the listeners each week. Many listeners are asking why we are off the air now.

“Margaret Dyer-Forster sponsored the *Born to Win* program on CAPP FM from 2005 until January 2018. Due to current life changes she can no longer do this. As the only Sabbath radio outreach in the whole of the region I am praying that God will provide sponsors through CEM for this life changing radio outreach for at least another year or two. *Won't you help us reach people around Africa with the saving message of Jesus through the life-changing teachings of Ronald L. Dart? If you would like to help, send your contributions to CEM and mark them for Benin.*”

If you have additional questions please email Larry Watkins, lsw@cemnetwork.com; Margaret Dyer-Forster, margaret.forster@gmail.com; or Michael Porter, porter_michaels@yahoo.com.

YEA News

Recently, at a Gatlinburg, Tennessee church retreat we spent some time discussing the YEA program and how it had worked with some independent churches and families. We received helpful feedback about the strong biblical foundation of the program and some input on how it might be simplified for use in small groups and such. This was encouraging, and our conversation then focused on keeping our young people in the faith as they grow up and move on to college and careers.

A consistent thread in this group discussion was that our young people do indeed need to be taught about God and the Bible. They also need mentors and role models in the church and need to be part of the church. There are some of us that tend to treat children and teens as a nuisance, not a blessing, and can't see past their long hair or how fussy they were in church.

With this in mind, here are a few questions to ask yourself and perhaps some other members of your congregation or home fellowship:

- Do you know the names and ages of the children you fellowship with?
- Do you make a point to speak to them each week?
- What do you know about them? Do you fellowship with their families?
- Do you congratulate or encourage them as they achieve certain milestones?
- Are there jobs they can help with at church so they are included in the weekly worship service?
- If you were a child or teen, would you enjoy the atmosphere in your congregation?

The young people in your church are a gift from God. Do you treat them with the value they deserve?

What's True?

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strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12).

The truth is, sometimes we would rather live in unrighteousness than face up to the truth. Then slowly but surely our world view, or epistemology, becomes corrupted. What’s your first line of defense against this? It’s simple. It is to love the truth. To have a commitment to truth, no matter what it costs, no matter how painful, no matter how uncomfortable. Unfortunately, the spirit of Pontius Pilate still haunts our society with the words, “What is truth?” (John 18:38).

The very foundations of truth have been, and are being, eroded in our educational institutions—from the lower grades of elementary school through the higher levels of university. Wisdom has lost much of its foundation. Can you do anything about that? If you have a Bible in your home, just turn to the first chapter of the Book of Proverbs and start reading: “The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtlety to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels” (Proverbs 1:1-5). Isn’t that what we want? It’s what you can do to rebuild a sound epistemology. God gave you one to begin with, but over time we screw it up. This is how you get it back.

Read Your Bible and Learn Right from Wrong

You can read the Bible every day. You can inform your conscience about right and wrong. You can train yourself to recognize good judgment and equity. In Proverbs chapter two Solomon said, “My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hidden treasures. . .” (Proverbs 2:1-4). Did you notice the reference to commandments

in that passage? The great foundation of our epistemology, our wisdom, is the Ten Commandments. The real reason why some want the Ten Commandments out of the courtrooms in our country is because the commandments are against lying, stealing, and adultery which create a hostile work environment for lawyers. They also provide a framework, a foundation, for our world view.

Biblical World View

There’s one chapter in the Bible which lays a foundation for a biblical world view that builds up an epistemology—wisdom that we can actually use to live a life. This chapter clears up so much that confuses Christian people. It begins to heal our world view or epistemology and restores the wisdom that we, as Christians, really ought to have. It’s the 119th Psalm. It is one man’s meditation on the Law of God, and what he understood the Law of God to be about. It’s easily the longest chapter in the Bible, laid out alphabetically in eight-verse stanzas to make it easier to memorize. What is easy to miss in this psalm—vital to understanding it—are the synonyms for law found in it. It doesn’t just say law, law, and law. In the first stanza alone there are seven synonyms for the law, and they repeat all the way through the psalm. They are: law, testimony, precepts, statutes, commandments, judgments, and The Way. The next stanza adds one more, Thy Word.

The Law

Christians for generations have been misled about the Law. Just as the Pharisees did in the New Testament, some have tried to use in the Law in an effort to control the behavior of others. It actually became, in some cases, an instrument of oppression. It was never intended to be anything like this. The Law was intended to inform, to educate, to train, to build a sound epistemology, to build sound wisdom in a man so that he can recognize what’s right and what’s wrong. How much is that worth to you? “Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently. O that my ways

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were directed to keep thy statutes! Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments”(Psalm 119:1-6). An educated conscience, a trained conscience, never has to be ashamed. Later, in verse nine he will say, “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psalm 119:9-11).

While we think about sinning against God, we also think about sinning against our own lives. It is the Law of God that keeps us from putting a foot wrong—from doing stupid things—from hurting ourselves. “With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth. I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word” (Psalm 119:13-16).

The world consistently grabs the wrong end of this issue. This fellow is not under some heavy burden, some yoke of bondage to the Law, some set of rules he has to live by, or else. He has found a treasure chest in the Law. He knows the difference between right and wrong. He has found the cure for a sick epistemology. He has found a fountain of wisdom at which he can drink and be healed. It's a treasure to him.

Wonderful Things Out of God's Law

Later in verse 17 he says, “Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live, and keep thy word. Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.” Notice: Not a burden, not an onus, not something he has to lay on his shoulder and drag around behind him. He's talking about wonderful things. “I am a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me. My soul breaketh for the longing that it hath unto thy judgments at all times” (vv. 19-20). Why would a man feel that way? It's because

the Law of God gives him an edge in life. The more he knows about the Law of God, the more successful he's going to be. In verse 24 he says, “Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counselors.”

The purpose of the Law is not to control. It is to reveal, to inform, and to counsel us as to right and wrong. Do you have any idea of the value of knowing right from wrong? I'm not talking about spiritual value only. Knowing right from wrong applies to everything, down to buying a used car. Even if you're going to do wrong, it's better to know it than not to know it. For the man who knows and does wrong can more easily retrace his path back where he ought to be. Then, in verse 50, he says, “This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me. The proud have had me greatly in derision: yet have I not declined from thy law. I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.”

This doesn't necessarily work in the letter of the law. Laws permitting slavery are an example of that. The meaning behind the law is what's important. It is the spirit of the law that gives a man comfort. Still later he says, “Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments” (Psalm 119:73). And this is the foundation of a strong epistemology. The ability to know truth when you see it is to know that the hand of God has made you and formed you. We do hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men were created equal. If you don't start there, nothing else will hold.

Just a Quick Question

Have you made your Feast plans yet? If not, call CEM at 1-888-BIBLE-44 for information.



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That the man of God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.

July Scripture Writing Plan



We encourage you to read each day's scripture and then write it down in a notebook, a journal, on index cards, in a text message or whatever method you know works best for you. If you can't write it down, consider speaking the scripture and recording it on your cell phone or voice recorder. Our goal is to have read and written down a minimum of 365 scriptures by the end of 2018. Let's do this and see the value it brings to our lives.

July 1	2 Peter 3:15	July 11	Colossians 1:11	July 21	James 1:4
July 2	Matthew 18:26	July 12	1 Thessalonians 1:3	July 22	James 5:7
July 3	Luke 8:15	July 13	2 Thessalonians 1:4	July 23	James 5:10
July 4	Luke 21:19	July 14	1 Timothy 6:11	July 24	James 5:11
July 5	Romans 5:3-5	July 15	2 Timothy 3:10	July 25	2 Peter 1:6
July 6	Romans 8:25	July 16	Titus 2:2	July 26	Revelation 1:9
July 7	Romans 15:4-5	July 17	Hebrews 6:12	July 27	Revelation 2:2-3
July 8	2 Peter 3:9	July 18	Hebrews 10:36	July 28	Revelation 2:19
July 9	2 Corinthians 6:4	July 19	Hebrews 12:1	July 29	Revelation 3:10
July 10	2 Corinthians 12:12	July 20	James 1:3	July 30	Revelation 13:10
				July 31	Revelation 14:12

CEM Mission Statement

Christian Educational Ministries (CEM) was founded in November 1995 by Ron and Allie Dart as an independent, non-denominational ministry to serve the public and individual Christians of every kind through the ministry of Ronald L. Dart. Mr. Dart, an ordained minister and evangelist, has served God through hundreds of sermons, broadcasts, Bible Studies, and books—bringing clarity and simplicity to topics.

CEM promotes Ron Dart's radio ministry, *Born to Win*, which is heard from coast-to-coast. His clear, conversational, and inviting style can be heard the world over. The *Born to Win* website, www.borntowin.net, features more than 1000 of Mr. Dart's timeless sermons and studies at any one time.

Our mission is:

- First, to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. (Matthew 28).
- Second, to teach the disciples of Jesus Christ so that they may be “proficient and equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:17).
- Third, to teach and train this generation and the next with studies and programs focused on youth, through the Dart's special passion, Youth Educational Adventures (YEA). (Deuteronomy 11:19, Proverbs 22:6).
- Fourth, to bring God's people closer together, through cooperative efforts wherever they may be. (2 Corinthians 5:18).

To this end, we teach the Bible and its Truth, with a goal of helping people make their own lives work while they are a positive influence and blessing to those around them. Follow Mr. Dart and CEM at www.borntowin.net, Facebook, YouTube, and other media.

Born to Win

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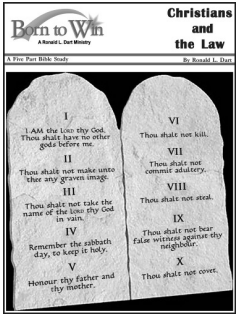
To the Law and the Testimony (**FREE CD**)

As Ron Dart says, he “unpacks” a section of scripture in Isaiah 8 and finds answers to several questions including, what is the purpose of the Law? With his gift of clarity he also brings insight into the Law of God in the New Testament, the understanding of the spirit/principle of the Law, and the importance of freedom and the Law. This CD comes with the bonus message, “*To Know the Truth.*”

Understanding the Law (**FREE CD**)

Where, when, and why was the Law of God established? Was the Law abolished at the cross? Are Christians to observe it? Did it end when the temple was destroyed? Was it just the ceremonial law that was abolished? Did Jesus fulfill the Law, allowing it to pass? The Bible answers these questions very clearly. What about the Old Covenant? What about the laws that were “added” and laws that are not currently in play? God’s Law was not passed, it was revealed. The Law becomes a tremendous advantage to him who keeps it. It brings wisdom, and gives meaning to knowledge.

Christians and the Law (Bible Study & CDs)



How is a person to know the difference between right and wrong? There are the Ten Commandments, of course, but why should we follow them? Weren’t they abolished along with the rest of the Old Testament Law? Why then did God hand down the Law in the first place—any law that can be abolished probably was not necessary in the first place. In this five-part Bible study, examine your knowledge of and assumptions about biblical Law to see if they are true. This study comes with CDs of answers and comments from Ron Dart for lessons one through four. (Unfortunately, he never made an audio recording for lesson five.) This study is a great tool for individuals and churches—always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you about the Law! This is new—the first time for CEM to offer these together. *Only \$8.95!*

Thank you for supporting this ministry with your prayers and generous donations.

We appreciate you and all that you do to help us share God’s Word to those who are called to bear.

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