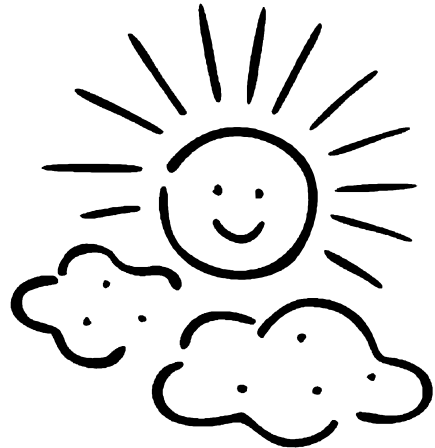


ABSOLUTES

What are “absolutes”? Absolutes are things that are unquestionable or free from restraint. For example, an absolute truth would be one that cannot be denied or questioned in any way; simply, it is understood to be proven and true. If you were to say, “the Sun will rise and set tomorrow”, than you would be voicing an absolute truth or an absolute; after all, the Sun always rises and sets within the course of a day...or does it?

In the book of Joshua, God stops both the Sun and the Moon for an estimated day to enable Israel to complete a battle. This event was described as the only one of its kind in the history of the world. Since God has stopped the Sun, or rotation of the Earth, the movement of the Sun is not an absolute. Still, the natural event is something understood to be an absolute based on the almost 100 percent chance of occurrence – it is practically certain!



Other natural events could be taken through the same rationale, but what about supernatural events or events that do not follow the laws of nature? For example, ghosts would be considered as supernatural and have been presented with some degree of proof or evidence. A survey or poll might show a mixed response to this issue: some being absolutely certain, some being dubious, and others denying the very existence and even finding the issue to be ridiculous. The existence of ghosts is not absolute.

What about other supernatural events or conditions such as the existence of God, the certainty of the Bible (as God’s truth) and of Jesus Christ being the messiah (as God’s son)? The Bible is replete with supernatural events that are sometimes difficult to accept as absolute based on what we know, understand, or have observed in the natural world (call it, our framework). The Sun halting, the water parting, the sky raining food (manna), the presence of angels, healings, and many other miracles cannot be rationalized by our knowledge or senses. Sometime these events, the Bible, and the position of God and Jesus must be accepted in faith as absolute truth. Like gravity, oxygen, magnetic forces and other invisible elements of nature, the truths of God must be accepted as absolute based on substantial but not fully understood evidence.

In a **WORD**