

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

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SOME OF THE STUPIDEST ARGUMENTS EVER MADE

Ever since becoming a Christian I have either personally heard, or heard of, some really stupid “arguments” put forth by sundry innovators (those not satisfied with the Lord’s arrangement – **Col. 3:17**) in order to try and justify what they deem as proper. Listen, for something to be proper in God’s sight it must first have scriptural authority (**2 Tim. 3:16-17**). Human arguments, in and of themselves, authorize nothing! The purpose of this article is simply to underscore a select few of the dumbest arguments that I know have been uttered by various spiritual harlots. Here goes:

“Luke was a doctor, therefore the local churches can own hospitals.”

Wow! Is that a learned statement or what? True, Luke was a physician (**Col. 4:14**). However, what does that prove? The only thing that it proves is that an individual Christian has the right to practice medicine so long as God’s law is not compromised (**Ax. 5:29**). This argument has as its basis the old tired “logic” of “*anything an individual Christian can do, local churches also can do.*” Give me a break. Using this line of “reasoning” the snowball never stops growing and local churches wind up being involved in so much more than God ever authorized. Any real student of scripture knows that not everything an individual Christian is authorized to do is something that local congregations are authorized to do (**cf. 1 Tim. 5:16**).

“That is white doctrine!”

One I know (while defending the truth relative to the social gospel, etc.) had this thrown in his face by the preacher for the Johnson County “church of Christ” (Ephren Taylor, Sr.) in early November, 2009. Is this not one of the stupidest statements you have ever heard of? The argument contradicts passages like **Gal. 3:26-29**; **Eph. 2:11-19**; **4:5**; & **Js. 1:25**. Look, there is just **one** proper doctrine. It’s not marked by whiteness, blackness, brownness, or a yellowish color. It is that which follows the form/pattern of sound words (**2 Tim. 1:13**). No one is an “Uncle Tom” because he has left off some so-called black doctrine. On the contrary, one is super courageous for searching out, applying and then standing up for the truth.

“We can have the Lord’s Supper in a cabin on a cruise ship since Paul must have had the Lord’s Supper on his way to Rome.”

This kind of reasoning is usually offered by those who wish to forsake the assembly for vacations aboard luxury liners. I know several people who argue such. Now let’s think this through. Do we know that Paul was, for an extended period of time, aboard a ship bound for Rome? Yes (**Ax. 27:1-44**). Do we know, from even one of those forty-four verses that Paul “brown bagged” the Lord’s Supper while upon the ship? No. Are we supposed to think above that which is written? No (**1 Cor. 4:6**). Is there biblical authority to partake of the Lord’s Supper apart from the worship assembly of a local church? No. (**Ax. 20:7**; **1 Cor. 11:17-34**). The honest student of scripture can see that this argument from the sea is really a sunken ship.

“We are not a human institution doing spiritual work; we are just individual Christians acting concurrently.”

This argument has often been uttered by various members of the Truth Magazine bunch and the Florida College crew relative to the unscriptural lectureships they organize and hold each year. Concurrent individual action in the spiritual realm is, indeed, authorized (**Ax. 15:36-41**). However, anyone who examines the facts relative to those two harlot organizations and the agenda they push knows that said argument is just a ruse (and a really dumb one at that) to continue on with their sinful practices.

“Culture defines what is and what is not modest apparel.”

This statement was made to me by a man named Dave Cochran (a so-called elder in Clarksburg, West Virginia). How any man who is supposedly qualified to be an elder (**1 Tim. 3:1-7**; **Titus 1:5-9**) can say such a thing is truly beyond me. The word “modesty” (**kosmios #2887**) (**1 Tim. 2:9**) is a general term denoting what is proper, or that which conforms to an intended order. To discover God’s intended order for proper dress one must go to scripture, not culture! God’s dress code is basically “neck to knee” (compare **Gen. 3:7** with **Gen. 3:21** and also study the Hebrew word translated as “coats”).

“That was not a lesson. All you did was read scripture. That kind of lesson will not edify anyone.”

The man noted above (Dave Cochran) and his fellow “elder” Rick Clelland both said this to me after I preached an all scripture sermon with no human commentary chronicling the birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ. Nearly 60 passages were read. Did those guys even hear what they said (**Ax. 20:32**)?