

Discussions: The Devil's Delusion

Question: We are to hold a discussion at my work place with colleagues on Matthew 11:18-19. They are contrasting Christ with John the Baptist. That John was strict in his lifestyle, while Christ had little or no inhibitions. Meaning that Christians should not shun any place or company of people, yet I believe Christians ought to be separate, peculiar, and choosy on who they keep company and what they eat and drink. How would you comment on these verses?

Reply: I will speak bluntly, sdas are 'discussing' and 'debating' and 'forum-ing' themselves to hell!!! They try and build their worldly castles on a pinhead.

Any reading of Desire of Ages shows clearly that Christ was very abstemious in his ways- BUT when invited to places where the object of those who invited Him was to LISTEN TO HIS TEACHINGS, he attended. Even at the wedding at Cana- DA tells us that after the miracle- He left the place and did not even join the feast.

The Pharisees lived in a constant round of 'ceremonial cleansings' and they made it a point to hold themselves aloof from the people -- the 'Holier than thou' attitude that God hates--and so they criticized Christ-Christ did not in any way go along with their man-made rituals- as He said there- 'Wisdom is justified of her children'. **I would ask anyone, how much 'feasting' one could do while presenting a sermon at the dinner table?**

You should actually go by the statement in Titus:3:9 But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

10 A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;

11 Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

I always follow this guidance. I answer once or twice and if they keep on-- I discontinue replying to them. The judgment is coming fast- you need your time yourself to study and prepare a character to stand true to God's word--**you need not waste your time on people who have drunk deep at Satan's wine-cellar and love what the world loves.** The end is upon us and it behooves us to be sober, vigilant and behave as did Israel on the Day of Atonement.

"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." 1Corinthians 1:21

"So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading." Nehemiah 8:8

This is actually the two God approved methods of presenting the truth to people-- Preaching or reading inspired material and expounding on what is read.

DISCUSSION, and forum type presentations are not used-- these methods have come into the church practice from worldly sources and actually are used by Satan to plant seeds of doubt, quibbling and confusion. When we have a 'thus saith the Lord' -- there is to be "Yes and Amen!" -- never "Let's discuss this-- how do you FEEL about this?"

In teaching, questions can be asked of the hearers- or of the teacher-- but the **answers should be from inspired writings-- not "I think", "I feel", or "I heard someone say"**. God bless!

Something to tell people trying to bring in weird teachings:

In was thinking about the kind of foolish arguments and theories that people put forward--and I was thinking how it must wound the heart of Jesus-- who went through that agony and died for our miserable souls--to look down as see us like the Pharisees arguing on the street-corners to appear wise instead of weeping at His feet in deep contrition for what our filthy sins cost!

I think when such people are dealt with--the fact that we need to be humbled to the dirt by what Jesus did for us--needs to be upheld rather than people like that trying to bring forth some new doctrine to confuse people!! I think of that presentation about Jesus' sacrifice and how we don't weep about it--and here instead--we argue about it!

TC