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Dear Christian Friend,

Our last two Monarchs (Aug. and Sept) were about some religious ideas that I DO NOT support. And some ideas were included that I DO embrace. Our mail indicates that our Bible Student friends DO appreciate this new approach to study so here are some more Q and A's.

JOKES

Q. Why do you laugh so much in your Bible teaching sessions? A lot of people think that Bible study is serious business and that you are making fun of them.

A. I make jokes at my OWN past religious ignorance. Humor is the only human emotion I know of that will break the tension of a highly charged religious atmosphere - and then allow the student to get his mind right back on the subject. Other emotions prevent study. As far as I know, I have never poked fun at any student. That's not my way.

Q. Why do some people get mad at you for laughing then?

A. People who get mad at me for laughing are all offended at what I teach about the Bible. They don't agree. So they look for something wrong. When I laugh at my own ignorance, the person feels that I'm laughing at them but I'm not!

I think that their sour puss is their own problem, not mine. So, I don't intend to change my own personality unless the HOLY SPIRIT makes the change.

Our own past ignorance is funny to me, whenever I see new light. My goal is to see things in the light of "PRESENT TRUTH". I like to laugh every time that my team gets another point.

HANDLING DISAGREEMENT

Q. Do you feel that there is more divisiveness in your own ministry than the average minister has in his ministry?

A. NO! I am more vocal about things because I do NOT have to come under the thumb of someone who controls my pay check and/or security. I am convinced that many more ministers would speak up for the truth, as they see it, if they enjoyed the same freedom from ecclesiastical control and financial control that I do.

I do NOT believe that I bring division. That job was for JESUS. I DO bring the question, "WHAT IS PRESENT TRUTH?" Finding the difference between PRESENT TRUTH and PAST TRUTH brings the division, NOT me.

Q. Well then, do you feel like you are in arguments and disagreements with certain men who are leaders of opposite thought?

A. I have come to learn that I am not in arguments with the MEN. To me, it is vital to see that I should not argue with men, but I sure do argue with their THOUGHTS. As far as the men go as individuals, I take my clue from what Paul said, "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? To his own master he standeth or falleth" (Rom. 14:4). To me that means that I should never attempt to judge and/or condemn the PERSONALITY of any of our GOD'S ministers. But on the other hand, as a minister of our GOD I believe that I must judge and condemn certain harmful theological IDEAS. Please notice the difference in judging the MAN from judging the IDEA.

Q. I'll take that. But what is your comment regarding those CULT EXPOSERS who are sending out literature to expose CULT LEADERS.

A. They send out HATE SHEETS. Their literature is sick. They attack the personality of the minister rather than analyze the content of his message. They identify every NEW thought about the Bible as being CULTISH because it wasn't taught in their own seminary. Men like Calvin, Luther and Wesley would NEVER have been successful if

the CULT EXPOSERS would have prevailed with their type thinking. They even resort to digging up scandal in the lives of our GOD'S ministers, as if to say that proves that their theology is wrong. I think that King David will rise up in the end-time and declare that those ideas of those HATE MONGERS are sick.

Q. It looks like your approach is to NOT be critical of our GOD'S ministers - but you sure don't back off in challenging some of their IDEAS.

A. You got it! JESUS speaks to me, Judge not and ye shall not be judged; condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned; forgive and ye shall be forgiven" (Luke 6:37). As a human man with a personality, I want to avoid the judgment, condemnation and unforgiveness of men, so I throw myself to the mercy of our GOD, not men - by refraining from judging other MEN.

Q. O.K., but can't you see that when you attack their IDEAS they believe you have become their ENEMY by attacking their personality?

A. Paul's answer in this matter satisfies me. "Am I therefore become your ENEMY, because I tell you the truth?" (Gal. 4:16). As much as I dislike the basic principle (because of my humanity) I am convinced that when we must choose between FRIENDS and TRUTH - we must choose TRUTH.

We should never consider that because someone disagrees with us - that makes them our ENEMY. But when that SOMEONE decides that we are THEIR ENEMY because of a truth we hold to - Paul says choose the truth (even if you have to lose a FRIEND). I have learned to agree. Every Monarch I have written on every subject has produced a few letters which say in effect, "Take me off your mailing list. You are a nut and a bad man. I'm sorry I ever sent you any money, and I'll never do it again." When they attack my personality by calling me a NUT and a BAD MAN - that makes them my enemy.

EXPOSING SIN

Q. Why do you think that you should NOT expose the SIN in the lives of people with whom you disagree? Most preachers relish the idea of finding what's wrong with their enemies.;

A. I don't expose SIN in the lives of friends or enemies. Here's why. The Bible tells us that perfect love COVERS a multitude of SINS. (I Pet. 4:8 & James 5:20). When Shem and Japeth COVERED their father NOAH'S SIN, they were rewarded by our GOD with a blessing. When HAM revealed his father's SIN, he was cursed. Personally, I need a BLESSING from our GOD, not a CURSING. So I'm trying to learn to walk in perfect LOVE. That's a two fold reason for not revealing SIN in ANYBODY'S life, friend or enemy.

Q. O.K., but don't you feel thin-skinned about the attacks on your own personality that some preachers level at you?

A. Sure. Who wouldn't? But listen to what James warned us about, "Not many of you should become teachers (censors and reprovers of other's thoughts), my brethren, for you know that we teachers will be judged by a higher standard and with greater severity than other people. Thus we assume the greater accountability and the more condemnation. For we ALL often stumble and fall and offend in many things. And if one does not offend in speech - never says wrong things - he is a fully developed character and a perfect man, able to control his whole body and to curb his entire nature" (James 3:1-2 adapted from Amplified - underlined emphasis by D.E.).

Q. How do you feel knowing that you will have to carry that load? Especially, when you remember that JESUS gave it to you - and He said His burden is light?

A. Ouch! Most victory comes through PAIN and sacrifice. Let's keep our eye on the VICTORY.

ABORTION

Q. You wrote a Monarch on ABORTION. Does that mean you believe in it?

A. NO! Absolutely NOT! The Monarch gave scriptures to show that the GOD of Israel gave different rules for the treatment of an aborted stillborn child vs the treatment of a full term child who subsequently dies (Ex. 21-22-23).

To cause the death of a full term child is murder; to cause the death of a fetus

is property damage - according to the Bible. I do not believe in wilful property damage or in murder. When I said that abortion is not murder according to the Bible definition - it was too much for present day (Moral Majority) leaders to take. Their enraged emotions kept them from understanding the plain English sentences in the Monarch. I have never recommended an abortion nor have I brought judgment and/or condemnation to those who had one.

Q. What was the reaction to studying the subject of abortion in the Bible?

A. I received a precious few letters after publication of that Monarch that helped to take the pain out of the many hate letters I received.

One was from a mother who said that her home had been hell since her daughter had an abortion. Since reading the Monarch she had stopped calling her daughter a murderess and peace has returned to the home. The mother thought that bringing judgment and condemnation would bring peace. Now, she didn't back off of her moral principles. She put a tighter lid on her daughter. I wonder how much peace can be in a home when a mother truly believes that her daughter is a murderess? Probably not much!

Another letter was from a 67 year old lady who said that she had not had a good night's sleep in 42 years. After reading the Monarch she slept clear through the night for two nights in a row - and she just had to write a note of thanks.

The truth will set you free.

Q. Did the negative reaction change you?

A. YES, I changed some. I learned that society is not able to see the difference between the moral and ethical practices of a Christian society vs. the teachings of the Bible. There often is a difference. I have changed in the way that I try to present facts. But, I have not changed my opinion regarding the conclusions of the Bible study. People who call abortion murder on Bible grounds are absolutely wrong. People who advise against abortion on RELIGIOUS (denomination) grounds, have a right. People who call abortion murder on LOGICAL, EMOTIONAL or LEGAL grounds are FORCING THEIR ideas on the lives of others. I wish they wouldn't

It is not my baby; it's not my problem; it's not my own body; but it IS my own nose, so I'm keeping it out.

So please don't ask me to teach your daughters that the Bible says abortion is murder - because I can't find that anywhere.

If you must stick your nose in her own business (or if she is so young that her pregnancy is your business) you may properly advise her that your Christian society does NOT approve of abortion - for lots of reasons.

I think it is cruel and inhuman for anyone to heap more judgment and condemnation on her at such a sensitive time in her life.

A letter I received from a prison matron stated that the prison was full of unwanted children and her job proved to her that the established church was not taking care of them like they said they would. Something she said about the young prisoners reminded me about the statement of JESUS about Judas, "It had been good for that man if he had NOT been born" (Matt. 26:24). Every time I read that plain statement of JESUS, I have to re-think the abortion issue.

I know and love several babies whose mothers decided to NOT abort. Things are working out. Temporal society is changing.

So who's to say - what's right?

The Bible does not identify abortion as murder.

It's her decision

Pray for her.

Q. Don't you think that you are opening yourself for a lot of attack when you teach that?

A. Yes. My enemies use it against me, and never learn anything from it themselves.

My friends try to see what I'm trying to say.

It is now 3 years later, and I have done no small amount of reflecting on that article about abortion. In the temporal, financial, worldly, influential realm - it hurt me quite a bit. In the realms of Bible study, love, forgiveness, mercy and peace - I feel very strong.

In the lives of many of my former friends - I now see that it was NOT timely truth for them.

In the lives of many needy people - I now see that it WAS timely truth for them.

Now, I want the wisdom to know when to minister to whom.

When I read a letter thanking me for love, mercy and forgiveness - I ask for another chance.

WHO AM I?

Who am I, that so very many people are starting to want to know what I believe? and what I do NOT believe?

I came to JESUS to eat the bread, flesh, and word; and I have believed on Him, so I drank the water, wine, blood, and spirit. If what I have written and published over the last 17 years is starting to make a constructive impression on present Christian theology - I am humbled - and my answer is; "When ye shall have done all these things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants; we have done that which was our duty to do" (Luke 17:10).

Love,

Love David

David

Pray for me.