

SILLY THINGS PREACHERS SAY ... THAT CREATE BAD DOCTRINE

"... some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; ... understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm."

~ 1 Timothy 1:6-7

1. Things Not As They Appear

- a. When people ask questions, it may not be the real issue.
- b. When family and friends pass around "religion", it may be folk theology not Bible.
- c. When preachers say silly things, it may be bad doctrine that sounds good.
- d. They may not teach wrong doctrine intentionally, but it is still wrong.
- e. This is not a roast on preachers, but a cry for clarity in Bible preaching.

2. Why It Happens

- a. Oversimplification – while simplifying, important nuance can be lost - Neh 8:8
- b. Bad illustrations – the conclusion does not justify every example, illustration, story
- c. To prove a point (to be right) – twisting scripture is never right
- d. Ignorance – some do not understand what they are saying – 1 Tim 1:7
- e. Motivation – to get people to do something – 1 Tim 1:7-9, Rom 16:18
- f. Popularity/growth - to win support (\$\$\$) – Titus 1:10-11; the cure → Rom 14:5
- g. A lot of folk theology (facebook theology) started from bad preaching.

3. Silly Things Preachers Say

- a. "God told me...", "The Holy Spirit led me ..." – ... straight to the devil - Mat 4:1
- b. "You can't out give God" - so... we owe him all things, right? - Mal 3:10, Luke 6:38
- c. "Every head bowed, and every eye closed" - except the deacons, ushers, kids...
- d. "Praise and worship is practice for eternity" – which is good for the band.
- e. "God has a perfect plan for your life" - which apparently includes suffering
- f. "God wants to do things for you, he is waiting for you to ask" – (facepalm?)
- g. "God desires to be in your plans and in your life" – have you prepared him room?
- h. "God's best for you..." ... is you crucified in Christ, your affections on things above
- i. "Be Jesus to the world" - Perhaps, we should preach Jesus to the world – 1Cor 2:2
- j. "Jesus will be what you need him to be" – So, will the real Jesus please stand up?
- k. "Jesus paid for us so we wouldn't have to" – You couldn't if you wanted to
- l. "Jesus suffered more than any man." - cf. Isa 52:14 with Psa 22:7, 22:17, 34:20
- m. "The middle letter of Sin is I" – Amen, Rom 3:10 (Now, what about pie and paint?)
- n. "People go to hell with their sins forgiven." – Then why are they in hell? Rom 14:23
- o. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" – else be devoured by fire.
- p. "This [insert Jewish custom] is a shadow of [my pet doctrine]" - Heb 8:5,9:9,10:1
- q. "The original Greek word for that is..." – speaking in tongues again? – 1Cor 14:4
- r. "Faith without works is dead" – The Bible said it that settles it... wait - 2 Tim 2:15
- s. "Be not many teachers" – Jam 3:1, but James is talking of Matt 20:26-27, 23:10-14

4. What to Do About It

- a. We should be fully persuaded in our own mind - Rom 14:5
- b. Study to show ourselves approved unto God – 2 Tim 2:15
- c. Stop repeating errors, and raise clarification or correction when needed – Eph 4:15