

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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HUMAN ARGUMENTS DON'T TRUMP SCRIPTURE!

Long ago, our Lord encountered some folks who used human reasoning to try to prove their unscriptural position. Read below.

“The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him, saying, ‘Master, Moses said, if a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother: likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. And last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? For they all had her?’” (Matt. 22:23-28).

Jesus replied: *“...Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living” (Matt. 22:29-32).*

Now notice that Jesus did **not** say, *“You Sadducees have made a compelling argument and said argument negates what is written.”* Now granted, He did not come right out and say the exact words, but the tenor of His response equates to the same words that serve as the title to this article: Human Arguments Don't Trump Scripture!

The Sadducees never “got it” (cf. **Acts 4:1ff**). However, the attempts to trump scripture with human arguments did not pass away with the death of the false teaching Sadducees. Instead, false teachers still today think that they can silence the truth on any number of issues by hoisting human arguments. I have seen it happen time and again since becoming a Christian. It makes me want to puke. In fact, this “human argument business” should make all who love the truth sick to their stomachs. Below are some examples of how people try to trump scripture with human reasoning. If you love the truth, grab a barf-bag.

One comes along who denies that those capable of believing must be baptized (immersed) in water to have their sins forgiven. He says, *“What about the lost and dying fellow who finds a Bible while wandering in the desert, discovers the truth on baptism, but dies before he is baptized. Surely, God will save him right?!”* Wrong! The human and emotional argument lifted by this genius does not trump what God has revealed in His word.

Another comes along – this time it's a woman. She believes that women may wear their hair short like a man; i.e. hair that does not hang down (cf. **1 Cor. 11:4, 14**). She reasons: *“So long as the short hair is styled in a feminine way, and coupled with feminine attire, it is acceptable with God, since women would still look like women!”* Hogwash! Listen, all the mousse and make-up and man-made arguments in the world do not trump the fact that, according to God, women are supposed to have long hair; i.e. hair that hangs down from the head. Consult **1 Cor. 11:15**.

Still another person comes along. The subject this time is the covering. This particular person believes **1 Cor. 11:2-16** is instructing all Christian women to place an artificial garment on their heads when they pray. To get around what the text clearly teaches; i.e. that a woman's covering is long hair, the following human argument is lifted: *“The passage cannot be discussing hair. If it were, what of the women who have cancer and lose their hair? God would be unfair!”* There are answers for this kind of nonsense, but all I want you to see for now is that this highly emotional human argument does not somehow trump what GOD SAYS THE COVERING IS! The text I'm referring to reads this way: *“But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering” (1 Cor. 11:15).*

Finally, another person comes along. This one sees no problem at all with having a “make-up Lord's Supper” for those who missed an earlier assembly on Sunday. The numbskull says to those who love the truth, *“You people who take this stand are inconsistent! You need to start meeting in upper-rooms if you want to keep up with your teaching!”* First of all, those who hold the truth on the matter are not inconsistent in that upper rooms are not the only authorized meeting place. Yet, even if we were inconsistent, would the pitiful human argument trump **1 Cor. 11:17-34**? No!

On and on I could go with examples, but I really don't want to throw-up, so I'll stop with the point having been made. One thing human arguments prove for sure is just how scripturally weak the particular position of the one using them is!