

Unsound Arguments for the Truth

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- **Defending truth with unsound arguments causes damage**
(2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Pet. 3:16; Titus 1:9-11).
- **We should care about arriving at right conclusions the right way**
(2 Tim. 2:15; Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21).
- **Truth does not need exaggeration, misrepresentation, etc.**
(Prov. 30:5-6; 1 Pet. 4:11; Rom. 1:16; 2 Cor. 4:2).

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MATTHEW 18:6 TEACHES WE SHOULD PROTECT CHILDREN?

- **Protecting children is a scriptural principle...**
(Exo. 22:22; Ps. 82:2-4, 127:3; Eph. 6:4 etc.).
- **... but Matt. 18:6 is not talking about protecting literal children.**
 - Jesus used a literal child (v.2) to make a spiritual point regarding believers (v.6, 10, 14).
 - The warning is against causing brethren to sin, not protecting literal children.

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1 COR. 13:8-10 PROVES GOD NO LONGER PERFORMS MIRACLES?

- **This is said to combat Pentecostal, Holiness, etc. error.**
- **1 Cor. 13:8-10 proves God does not work miraculously through people today. It does not prove God Himself stopped working miraculously altogether.**
 - God's indirect miraculous operations served a limited purpose (Heb. 2:3-4; 2 Cor. 12:12; Mark 16:20; 1 Cor. 14:22).
 - Where does the Bible say that God's direct miraculous operations served a limited purpose?
- **Don't speak where the Bible doesn't speak (1 Pet. 4:11).**
- **Don't put God in a box He didn't put Himself in (Eph. 3:20; Ps. 78:41).**

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SMOKING, DRINKING, ETC. ARE SINS BECAUSE OF 1 COR. 6:19?

- **Sexual immorality is the specific sin identified as the sin which goes against one's body (v.18, 20).**
- **One must prove that smoking, drinking, recreational drug use, etc. are sins against our body for v.19 to apply.**
 - What verse (Col. 3:17) tells us these things are sins against our body?
- **These things are sins, but not because of 1 Cor. 6:19.**
 - Addictions (1 Cor. 6:12; 2 Pet. 2:19).
 - Drinking, not just drunkenness (Eph. 5:18; 1 Pet. 4:3).
 - Affects judgment (Prov. 20:1, 23:29-35; 1 Thess. 5:5-8; 1 Pet. 5:8; etc.).
 - Wastes money (Luke 15:13-14).

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GOD NEVER HEARS THE PRAYERS OF ALIEN SINNERS?

- **It's generally true that God doesn't listen to prayers of sinners** (John 9:31; Prov. 28:9; Isa. 1:15).
- **However, there is scriptural evidence that God will listen to and answer the prayers of alien sinners seeking to know the truth.**
 - God accepted Cornelius's prayers before he obeyed the gospel (Acts 11:13-14; 10:2, 4, 31).
 - It really is true that God rewards those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6).
- **While God may hear the prayers of those who are sincerely seeking Him, the prayers of those refusing to obey Him will not be accepted.**

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THE HOLY SPIRIT ONLY WORKS THROUGH GOD'S WORD?

- **This is said to combat false Calvinist and charismatic doctrines regarding the role of the Holy Spirit today.**
- **It simply is not true that the Holy Spirit only works through the word of God today.**
 - The Holy Spirit intercedes for believers in prayer (Rom. 8:26-27) via the personal indwelling (v.11; Gal. 4:6).
 - The word of God does not intercede for us. The Holy Spirit personally intercedes just like Christ personally intercedes.
 - None of this means the Holy Spirit gives anyone revelations today (1 Cor. 13:8-10) or overrides anyone's free will (Acts 7:51).
- **Don't create false doctrine to combat false doctrine.**

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EVERY CONVERSION IN ACTS MENTIONS BAPTISM?

- **This is said to contend for the necessity of baptism.**
- **Not every conversion in Acts mentions baptism though.**
 - Most do (Pentecost – Acts 2:14-47); (Samaritans – Acts 8:5-16); (Ethiopian eunuch – Acts 8:35-39); (Saul of Tarsus – Acts 22:16); (Cornelius – Acts 10:34-48); (Lydia – Acts 16:13-15); (Philippian jailer – Acts 16:30-34); (Corinthians – Acts 18:1-8); (Ephesians – Acts 19:1-5).
 - Some don't (Acts 4:4; 11:21, 24).
 - We know these people were baptized because of passages like Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38, 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21; etc.
- **Don't exaggerate or misrepresent the truth to prove the point.**

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- **Faulty arguments are not good arguments simply because they defend truth.**
- **Let the truth stand on its own two feet without exaggeration, misrepresentation, etc.**
- **Don't give people additional reasons to dismiss the truth.**