

Smoky Mountain Reflections
September 2011

Greetings in Christ, I often comment on current affairs and try to shine the light of God's truth on what is going on in the world. But this month I am going to do a little logical critique of the competition, that being any and all who deny the truth claims of God and his word, while loudly proclaiming that their position is the position of the enlightened so that any who disagree with them do so to their own intellectual demise.

The topic for today's discussion so self-defeating statements because our non-Christian friends and non-religious friends are bogged down with them. First being a Christian is actually one of the most philosophically and logically pleasing positions to hold with out self-defeating statements. Quite to the contrary We make a claim that affirms itself; there is such a thing as absolute truth and that is an absolute statement. Being a Christian is the first win / win scenario, if we are wrong, we simply live a well ordered pleasant life and we die, but if we are right we get both the well ordered life and eternal bliss with God our creator and redeemer.

It really is quite a fun exercise to point out the clear contradiction and self condemning nature of most views that oppose God's truth. Gene Edward Vieth does a great job of point it out this way: Postmodernist theorists admit the irony of their positions when they say things like, there is consensus that consensus is impossible, authoritative statements of the disappearance of authority, and the poor philosophers who condemn the notion of having views while avoiding having views about having views

Let's review a list of self-defeating statements;

- The atheist says; **There is no God or supernatural.** how do they know this? what divinity supernaturally revealed this to them?
 - The agnostic says; **you can not know God.** OK but how do they know this?
- Here are some more clear favorites that do not pass their own test, and their responses;
- There is no truth.... Then is that statement true?
 - There are no absolutes.... Except for that one?
 - You can't know truth.... Then how do you know that one?
 - You can't know anything for sure.... Are you sure about that?
 - Do not take anyone's advice..... Except yours?

The Hindu concept that everything is an illusion self destructs because it says in essence I am a self and not a self at the same time. This violates the law of non contradiction; for example computers use a binary system of ones and zeros, this law keeps these two things unique so that a computer works regardless of its location, even if it is in the eastern hemisphere being used by a Hindu it functions the same as if it would in the western hemisphere for a Christian, or an atheist, because God's creation functions with the law of non contradiction whether we believe it or not.

I would like to wrap this up with something that does not self destruct. The fact that God's truth functions so well in man's constructed realm of reason and logic, but our sinful nature just pushes this truth aside. here are just 3 solid examples

Geography: No matter how hard the anti-Christian critics and detractors try the fact that over 80% of the place names in scripture have been identified and the few that haven't been found either have good possibilities or just no longer exist blast a big hole in the supposed errors in God's word

History: A real person Jesus Christ lived, where the bible says he lived, died on the cross like the bible says he did, and a cloud of ancient reliable witness in history claim that he rose from the dead like the bible says he did. No credible historian today denies these historical facts.

Archeology: There are thousands of archeological finds that affirm the geographical and historical connections to God's word not to mention outright affirming scriptural accounts. while at the same time there is not one single solid disproof among all that evidence.

None of these things prove God exist, they only loudly claim that it makes a lot of since to believe He does and that the truth claims of scripture are reliable in every realm of human science they touch. Affirming the authority of God and His word.

In Christ,
Pastor Portier