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Scriptures and Doctrine :: "Avoid foolish questions.― C H Spurgeon

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Titus 3:9

Our days are few, and are far better spent in doing good, than in disputing over matters which are, at best, of minor impo rtance. The old schoolmen did a world of mischief by their incessant discussion of subjects of no practical importance; a nd our Churches suffer much from petty wars over abstruse points and unimportant questions. After everything has bee n said that can be said, neither party is any the wiser, and therefore the discussion no more promotes knowledge than lo ve, and it is foolish to sow in so barren a field.

Questions upon points wherein Scripture is silent; upon mysteries which belong to God alone; upon prophecies of doubtf ul interpretation; and upon mere modes of observing human ceremonials, are all foolish, and wise men avoid them. Our business is neither to ask nor answer foolish questions, but to avoid them altogether; and if we observe the apostle' s precept (Titus 3:8) to be careful to maintain good works, we shall find ourselves far too much occupied with profitable b usiness to take much interest in unworthy, contentious, and needless strivings.

There are, however, some questions which are the reverse of foolish, which we must not avoid, but fairly and honestly m eet, such as these: Do I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Am I renewed in the spirit of my mind? Am I walking not after t he flesh, but after the Spirit? Am I growing in grace? Does my conversation adorn the doctrine of God my Saviour? Am I looking for the coming of the Lord, and watching as a servant should do who expects his master? What more can I do fo r Jesus? Such enquiries as these urgently demand our attention; and if we have been at all given to cavilling, let us now turn our critical abilities to a service so much more profitable. Let us be peace-makers, and endeavour to lead others bot h by our precept and example, to "avoid foolish questions.―

C.H.Spurgeon: 'Morning and Evening - 19th November reading'