

Social Media & Stupid Arguments

Paul says, “Don’t have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.” (2 Tim.2:23) What makes an argument foolish and stupid? There are two ways. First, it could be an argument that is not worth making over a subject that is not worth the argument. Why do we feel like we have to fight every battle, no matter how insignificant? I wish I could take back all the stupid arguments I have been involved in. They were so meaningless. They had nothing to do with wisdom. Proverbs 20:3 says, “It is to a man’s honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.” Proverbs 16:32 says, “Better a patient man than a warrior, a man who controls his temper than one who takes a city.”

Proverbs 17:14 says, “Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so, drop the matter before a dispute breaks out.” This is just a sampling of Biblical wisdom on the matter. James 4:1-4 says quarrels come from our evil desires, and we don’t have what we want because we don’t ask God, or we ask with wrong motives. That brings me to the second reason arguments can be stupid and foolish. It is because of how we argue. We often don’t talk about the substance of a matter. We get personal. We get sarcastic. We ridicule. We put others down. These are usually a sign that we have a weak position or that we are just too lazy to study the subject at hand and to present evidence for a different position. Smart-alecky and snide remarks are cheap arguments. So, there are some things not worth arguing about, but if they do warrant an argument, then let’s learn to fight honorably.