

It's Saturday night,

...and a church in a neighboring community is having a fundraiser for the purpose of sending their youth group on a *missions trip*.

The missions trip fundraiser will be in the form of "Drag Queen Bingo" (DQB).

Sorry... you know I can't leave it alone...

I'm going to the church tomorrow to speak with Mr. Reverend, and Mrs. Reverend, she being the community pastor.

When I learned of the DQB, I was amazed (though I oughtn't have been) that this was in my backyard. We decided that my wife and I would go to the church on Sunday morning and perhaps have an opportunity to speak with this "pastoral team".

But then I thought, "Wilt thou reason with a fool?".

Changing their minds was not gonna happen.

This became especially apparent after I listened to last Sunday's service, at which their "intern", a young lady who was about to graduate from Yale Divinity School (YDS), spoke.

She was informing the congregation about YDS's decision to allow her to stay at this church following her internship and graduation, as one of 10 grads being distributed to 10 churches throughout CT with the goal of "re-imagining church".

Her "sermon" confirmed that hers, YDS's and the church's were one; the corruption of Christianity... not re-imagining it, corrupting it... including the babies. Everything from the Sr Pastor's mouth prior to the intern's sermon, all that was contained in the DQB flyer, and all the remarks from the Rev Wife in defense of the DQB, all said the same thing. It's a united front.

Corrupt. Undermine. Destroy. Re-imagine.

When I show up at the church tomorrow, I have no illusions that I'll do any good... at least not tomorrow anyway.

But I'm going to share the truth with them anyway. What else have I.

I'm not going to talk about God or the Bible. Their attitudes confirm that they've already eliminated such from any of their thought processes.

Rather, I'm going to share with them the sheer, human stupidity of their work.

Even after I speak with them, I'm going to hand the three of them, the two pastors and the new "re-imaginer", the following...

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I will leave God and the Bible out of this conversation as, were I to introduce them, I run the risk of myself being dismissed, for their dismissal is readily apparent.

I will speak from common sense and common sense alone, with two non-religious analogies.

>>**First**, from the world of business.

You have a business, a relatively successful one, that's been thriving and growing for 15 years. You are careful with expenditures, comparing them carefully to profits so as not to spend more money than what is projected – over a 15 year history – to come in.

Then you have a stellar quarter... profits like you've never seen. It may be tough to pinpoint the source or reasons for such, but nevertheless, there it is.

So you decide that it's time to expand. You buy property and plan an expanded facility that will be paid for with that new income level as demonstrated by that stellar quarter.

Problem

That new income level was just one quarter.

We, in our culture, are making long term decisions, decisions that will affect our posterity in very negative ways, by doing the same thing as the above described, unwise business owner.

Making future affecting decisions on the basis of contemporary phenomena rather than historic, demonstrable fact, is stupid.

>>**Second**, from the world of pedagogy... whether in parenting, or pastoring, or teaching, or training, or leading in general.

It is, as all will realize, impossible to prepare and/or train any learners for absolutely each and every circumstance that he or she may encounter. No one even tries to think of such a thing.

How then to prepare them?

Principles.

The principles of a matter can then be brought to bear upon whatever the circumstances may be.

Principles must not be abandoned in favor of contemporary phenomena, in whatever the sphere. Doing so with learners, in whatever the sphere, is to participate in the creation of unprincipled persons.

Problem

None of us want to think ourselves unprincipled.

None of us wants to deal with the unprincipled as, they are... unprincipled.

What then of the knowing creation of the unprincipled?

Stupid

Pastor

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