

Whatever Happened To Religious Debates?

by Wayne Goff

When I first began preaching, **religious** “debates” had become quite unpopular and had a negative image around them. Then **political** debates became popular, especially if they involved presidential candidates, and I distinctly remember myself *thinking* “Hey, maybe **religious** debates will come back into vogue since everyone seems to be accepting **political** debates.” How naive and foolish could I have been?

Religious debates are so few and far between that many of those reading this article have never been to a debate, heard a debate, or know what goes on in a religious debate! Denominations do not like to debate because they cannot afford to have their false religions, false organizations, and false doctrines **exposed!** But I cannot tell you why my brethren do not like to debate. You would think they would love to contrast truth versus error! By attending well-presented debates, **it makes truth shine like a beacon in the night** while exposing that which is **wrong and sinful**.

Let me give you a couple of “propositions” for debate that used to be fairly common. You can see for yourself what is no longer *discussed*, much less *debated*:

PROPOSITION: Resolved, that the Scriptures teach that the Church or Kingdom of Christ was set up or established during his personal ministry on earth. ~ Affirmed by A.A. Hensler, Baptist. Denied by Charles R. Nichol, Christian.

PROPOSITION: The Scriptures authorize infant baptism. ~ Affirmed by C.L. Ballard, Methodist. Denied by C.R. Nichol, Christian.

PROPOSITION: The New Testament is the Supreme Authority in the Christian Religion. ~ Affirmed by Eldred Stevens, Christian. Denied by Very Reverend Eric Beevers, Ph.D., Catholic.

Do you see what I mean? Religious people today might actually enjoy listening to these debates if they could find one! And if these “propositions” make you feel uncomfortable, then ask yourself “Why?” Do you not think false doctrine, false religions, and false organizations will lead one to be lost eternally? Oh I understand that all Americans today are so worried(?) about hurting someone’s feelings. But I think brethren need to “*come out from the world*” and adopt a more biblical attitude toward the truth and oppose Satan’s works wherever they might be found. ***What do you think?***

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