



“Put an end to foolishness -Stop those foolish complaints”

Numbers 21:4-9

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Dear friends in Christ,

There are no stupid questions. That may be true in some respects. As long as you are asking an honest question. But there are foolish questions. Questioning authority like parents, police officers, or your boss will often times lead to severe consequences.

It's not wise to argue with parents, the police, or your boss. You run the risk of being grounded, going to jail, or getting fired. It's no wonder parents have resulted to phrases like “Because I said so” Or police officers, “Just obey the speed limit.” Or a boss that says “just do your job!”

Are you questioning God's methods? Are you questioning how God is present in your life. Should God be treating you better? Chances are you have a few complaints. Why is this happening? How could God let this happen? Does God even care anymore?



These are foolish questions. And if we think about it, they really are foolish complaints. These are questions that don't deserve an answer. And what could we expect God to say anyway?

How could God possibly explain his methods? God doesn't answer to anyone. Because of our foolishness, God can't explain his methods to us. Our brains are too small to comprehend all that God comprehends. My thoughts are not your thoughts, declares the Lord. Isaiah 55

In the two Almighty movies, that is Bruce almighty and Evan almighty, neither can understand God's ways. Bruce doesn't understand how to hold the universe in a balance, and when the world is left to Bruce, the world spins out of control with violence and turmoil. Evan, in the same light, just doesn't get it that he needs to build the ark, even though God has clearly told him too. Then really fails to see the point in God sending a second ark.

In the Bible we have the two similar people to Bruce and Evan. Job and Noah hold their tongue from having foolish complaints. Job refuses to curse God and die, the first suggestion to all his problems. Noah never questions God's plans



of the Ark. At least we have no record of him ever doubting or even struggling with the plan of taking all that time to build an ark.

On the flip side the Bible reveals what happens to those who actually refuse to follow God's methods. Have you given up on God's methods? Do you stand in the same place as the Israelites in the desert who gave up on God? Not to mention that they also held Moses personally responsible for leading them somewhere they didn't want to go. Following God for them was not productive enough. It wasn't in their minds. doing them any good.

Questioning God's methods causes consequences far more severe than authorities here on earth. The punishment is death and hell. But first death. As was the case in the desert. People were bit by snakes and died. At this point even the most reasonable person is tempted to question God's methods. Killing the people. It was like hell watching your family members die all around you. But let's stop right there and not go any farther. We should not dare question God's methods.



That leads to death as it did for Adam and Eve. The snake that led them astray. God's methods were questioned, "Did God really say?" Foolish questions that question God's authority and methods lead to death. And hell is the sad reality that God sets before us. Foolish questioning of methods gets us in trouble fast.

The Israelites question was glaring louder and louder, "why have you led us out here to die?" This was the last time the Israelites would complain. God put a stop to it with judgment. He let it die.

Surprisingly going along with God's methods turns out quite well for us. Follow God's commands and life will go better for you. Obey your parents and it will go well with you. This is the first commandment with a promise. In the same way following God the Father will go well with you.

God always provides a way out. In the desert he provided a bronze snake on a pole. Sounds kind of weird, but that wasn't going to stop people from looking at the serpent in order that they may live. But the best thing is God didn't leave them to die.



God doesn't leave us to die either. He left his Son to die instead. And no matter how foolish or odd or simplistic it may seem. Look at the cross, where Jesus died, and where sin and death died. You might as well, because it's the only way out of hell.

God's way out of hell, which we dare not question, is to believe in Jesus, the one who died on the cross. That's the only way. In our state of desperation, we'll take it. Some may think that sounds absurd that this is the only way into heaven. But hey, might as well go for it, because no one has come up with another option. No sinner can make it in all on his own. And it doesn't take a genius for us to understand that all people are sinners. Turns out, God's way sounds great, where do I sign up. Well it's easy, look at the cross.

God can't explain his love for us. He can't fully describe why Jesus died for us. Because of our near sightedness, we can't see it. But despite that, God still gives us the best description he can by giving his only begotten son to us. Jesus himself as his last effort to help Nicodemus understand his teaching, tells the story of the bronze snake lifted up as he would be. This story is the best real story that



gives us eyes to see God's unconditional love for us. What could be easier than just looking up and seeing his love for us.

God really should have sent us all to hell. But, God doesn't do things the way we do them, does he. He saves us by his Grace. So then, stop this foolish questioning about what God does or doesn't do. Believe, and heaven is all yours.