

MOST COMMON REACTIONS TO M.A.D

WHY OTHERS DON'T SEE IT

*"And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked:
and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter."*

~ Acts 17:32

1. Common Responses

- People have been saved, but there are many knee jerk reactions to right division
- There are common reactions to hearing something new (hearing M.A.P.D.R.D)

2. The Heresy Reaction – *"Are you a cult?"*

- Name calling, labeling, "extreme", "too far". There are heresies/cults, we are not it.
- Gal 4:16-19 – Am I become your enemy because I tell you the truth?
- Acts 24:10-16 – 'Neither can they prove the things whereof they accuse me' ← meekness

3. The Credibility Question – *"who else teaches this?" "where did you go to school?"*

- If you say, Dr. Dobson, Billy Graham, or Stephen Hawking they will be quiet.
- Paul rejected his "schooling" – Phil 3:4-9, Gal 1:11-12, 1 Cor 2:4-6, 3:18, 2Cor 10:17-18
- Let knowledge of the Bible be your qualification. God's word must be credible, not you.

4. The Claim of Arrogance/Ignorance – *"Why have I never heard this?" "I know this already"*

- Hard truth: it was not on tv, radio, Youtube, taught in church – it requires reading/study
- If ye have heard – Eph 3:2; "ignorant brethren" abound Rom 11:25
- We are all ignorant until we hear and learn (sometimes repeatedly) – Rom 10:17, Ti 3:2

5. Ad Populum – *"How can so many people be wrong?"*

- What about history, tradition, community, family, friends? The truth can change them!
- The minority in scripture → Noah, Elijah, Matt 7:13-14, 2 Tim 1:15
- What is right is more important than who says so - Gal 1:8-10

6. Appeal to Peace – *"Is it really important?" "Won't it cause division?"*

- It affects the gospel → 1 Cor 9:17; and dividing from error is always good – 1 Tim 1:3
- Peace comes from the unity of the faith – Eph 4:13 Convert the people, not the doctrine.

7. The Antinomian Response – *"Isn't good behavior/strict/work legalism?"*

- Grace salvation/life does not require works, Grace ministry requires works - Eph 2:10
- Christ teaches us good behavior, grace motivates us – Titus 2:11-12, Eph 4:20-24

8. The Doubting Disposition – *"Do you know it all?" "What about...?"*

- Questions are good, but always questioning is a weakness - Rom 14:1, 1Co 6:12,10:23
- 1 Tim 1:4, 6:4, 2 Tim 2:23; Titus 3:9 – We must discern/prioritize what edifies

9. *Not so common response* → **The Faithful Workman**

- People are afraid, follow the crowd, ignorant, seek peace/comfort/money, sin, doubt.
- 2 Timothy 2:2 and 2 Timothy 2:15 → Faithful, study, work... is rare – 1 Cor 4:1-2
- 2 Tim 2:22-26 gives us instruction in how to handle these reactions – 2 Tim 1:7
- Charity (1 Cor 13), fruit of Spirit (Gal 5:22-23), not a description of heaven, but now...