

If I don't know it, it can't be true.

Ever hear that statement before? Of course not! No one would say that. It's the height of arrogance, is it not?

But I submit to you that you hear it all the time. I do.

Let's think about it together.

Consider this from scripture; from the book of Job...

Old Job was suffering terribly, and couldn't figure out why. Job's friends came by to "help", but spent most of their time trying to convince Job that it was his own sin that resulted in this "punishment" that he was getting from God, the result of which was bringing Job his terrible suffering.

Job, rightly so, told them that he'd done nothing for which he deserved this punishment from God; but they would hear nothing from Job. Any and all of his explanations and ideas were roundly dismissed by them. Only what *they* thought; only their assessment of the situation; only their beliefs were **right**.

No matter what Job said, they stuck to what they "knew". They had Job's suffering all figured out. Their job now, was just to convince Job of their "rightness".

Job said in response to them, "No doubt, you are the people, and wisdom will die with you."

In other words, you guys know everything that there is to know. You have nothing else to learn.

Whatever I say is wrong and whatever you say is right. *If you don't know it, it can't be true.*

Unfortunately, there are people who have the attitude that, if they don't already know something, it can't be true. No doubt, you know some. I'll bet you can think of someone you know who has the attitude that says, "If I don't know it, it can't be true". When you get a bunch of them in one place, it merely becomes we, instead of I.

Here's the killer... many of them are in churches! In fact, there are entire congregations, groups, denominations, etc, who feel exactly this way. They learn what their group tells them to learn, and become convinced that there is nothing else to learn; and if someone comes along with anything that isn't included in what they already "know", then it's just not true. They are the people, and wisdom will die with them.

So I ask again... ever hear that statement before? I'll bet you have.

Our task however, is not to point out "those" people. Our task is to never become one of their tribe!

In the 14th chapter of the Gospel of John, as Jesus was telling his followers that He would have to leave them soon, it is recorded that He said, "These things I have spoken to you while I remain. But [when I'm gone] the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and will remind you *of* all things which I said to you."

Imagine, someone, anyone, any group, any church, any denomination, thinking that they've learned all that the Spirit of God has been sent to teach; they, and they alone, know all that there is to know about God. Hmm...

Pastor