



Speakers Corner @ the meeting house

WOMEN'S ROLES IN THE CHURCH...

Galatians 3:28

ORIGIN OF EVIL...

Ezekiel 28:11-19

PROOF OF GOD'S EXISTENCE...

Romans 1:19-20; Ecclesiastes 3:11; Psalm 14:1; 53:1

MENTAL ILLNESS...

1 Peter 5:8

VIOLENCE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT...

OLD... Deuteronomy 7 & 20; Joshua 6:21; 8:24-26; 10:28-40

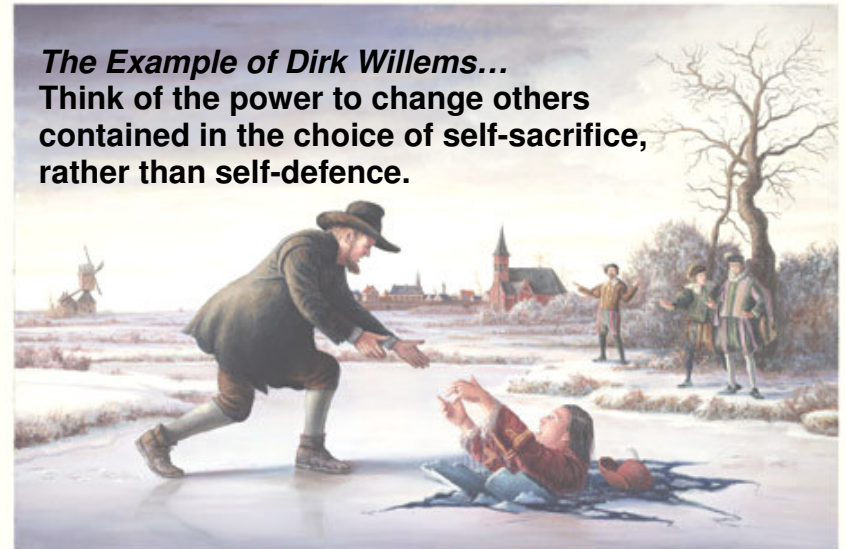
NEW... John 18:36; 1 Corinthians 9:26; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5;
Ephesians 6:10-20; 1 Timothy 1:18; 6:12; 2 Timothy 2:4; 4:7

CHRISTIAN PACIFISM...

Matthew 5:38-47; Luke 6:27-36; John 18:36; Romans 12:14-13:7

Problems with the classic pacifist trap (e.g., Man breaks into your house and is going to kill everyone. Shouldn't you defend your family?)...

1. Assumes pacifists have not wrestled through this.
2. Forgets that "just war" theologians did not advocate violence in this scenario either.
3. Tries to build a consistent worldview based on the least likely, most emotionally laden, contrived case scenario possible, while ignoring all other, more likely scenarios.
4. Assumes that violence is the only way to "defend" another person.
5. Assumes a violent approach will be successful.
6. Assumes a non-violent approach will not be successful.
7. Leaves behind the teaching of Jesus.



The Example of Dirk Willems...
Think of the power to change others contained in the choice of self-sacrifice, rather than self-defence.

Love Your Enemies and Bless Them That Curse You

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one new thing you learned or one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you.

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Read about the role of the Church vs. the role of the State in **Romans 12:14-13:7**. a) What verse or thought stands out the most to you from this passage? Why? b) In your own words, what do you think is Paul's main point in this passage? How should we live this teaching out in our context today?
3. Review the NEW Testament Scriptures in the notes regarding "Violence in the Old Testament". a) What passage stands out to you the most? Why? b) List as many ways as you can about how the coming of Christ changed the concept of God's "kingdom" on earth. What are the implications for our lives today? Give examples.

SO WHAT?...

4. Take a few minutes or moments to meditate on **Luke 6:27-28**. Is there some area in your life you struggle to live this teaching out? What would your life look like if you fully embraced and embodied this teaching? Pray for each other about this.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, September 10 / 17, 2006