

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Assumptions

"Assumptions are made and most assumptions are wrong." – Albert Einstein

"Do not make assumptions unless you know the whole story. If in doubt, ask the person directly." – unknown

"Before you assume, learn the facts. Before you judge, understand why. Before you hurt someone, feel. Before you speak, think." – unknown

"Our enemy is fear. Blinding, reason-killing fear. Fear consumes the truth and poisons all the evidence, leading us to false assumptions and irrational conclusions." – Rick Yancey

"Never make assumptions about someone based on your past experiences with someone else." – unknown

An assumption is defined as, "A thing that is accepted as true or as certain to happen, without proof." It is amazing how often we find ourselves speaking or acting based merely on an assumption.

What we often forget is that assumptions can get us into a lot of trouble. It damages relationships and certainly marriages. Often people are falsely accused without basis of fact.

One would tend to think that the courteous and kind thing to do, is to be sure of our accusations before we make them. And in this regard, we need to especially be careful of hearsay.

Simply defined, hearsay means, "Information received from other people that one cannot adequately substantiate; rumor." Such things are often predicated by such phrases as, "Did you hear...?" or, "I heard that..." And people get drawn into such tabloid gossip assuming the worst about someone.

We would do well to think about the Golden Rule with assumptions. "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (Matt. 7:12). You likely would want your brethren to give you the benefit of the doubt before reporting false information about you. So in fairness, you need to give them the same consideration.

Think of the damage that can be done just on the basis of an assumption. Marriages, reputations, relationships, etc. all can be greatly affected without proof.

Some preachers have even been labeled false teachers simply on the basis of an assumption, or a rumor.

We live in a precarious time in which people make rash judgments about others without even knowing the facts. Again, where is the fairness in acting so irresponsibly?

Assumptions will make you the devil's pawn. The hurt done to churches and individuals only seeks to promote Satan's interests.

Christians are supposed to be known for their love, not their divisiveness (John 13:34-35). Our task is to edify, not destroy. Always strive to think before you speak, and be absolutely sure of your facts.