

Establishing Bible Authority #4

EXPEDIENTS (EXPEDIENCY) - a choice that facilitates (expedites) the accomplishment of God's will. (It is a CHOICE that is not specified).

I. Expedients must be lawful - 1 Corinthians 6:12; 10:23

A. Authorized by command, approved example, necessary inference

1. "Unauthorized" = "lawless" = sinful - 2 John 9; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Romans 14:23

B. Unlawful practices are NEVER expedient -

1. Ox cart - 1 Chronicles 13:6-10; 15:2; Numbers 4:15

2. Women preachers or song leaders - 1 Timothy 2:12; 1 Corinthians 14:34

II. Expedients cannot be specified -

A. Gopher wood - Genesis 6:14 - **EXPEDIENT?? NO!** Which tree? - YES!

B. Lamb for Passover sacrifice - Exodus 12:5 - The which one is **EXPEDIENT** - it's a choice!

C. Baptism - Romans 6:4 - The **METHOD** is specific! Where and when are **EXPEDIENT**.

1. We know WHO - **that is specified** - Mark 16:16

III. Expedients must edify - 1 Corinthians 10:23-33

A. All must be done to edify Christians - 1 Corinthians 14:26

B. Sometimes we must defy man - Acts 4:18-20; 5:29

C. Destroying unity is sinful - Ephesians 4:1-3

IV. Expedients must not offend a brother - 1 Corinthians 10:32; Romans 14:13-23

A. In matters of opinion we seek the best for others - 1 Corinthians 8:7-13 (eating meats)

B. In matters of faith there is no option but to obey - Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6; Romans 16:17

V. Additions or Substitutions to God's Word are NOT expedient

A. Elements on Lord's Table - leavened bread and orange juice

B. Type of music and songs - instrumentals and hip hop or secular songs

C. Method of obtaining salvation... etc., etc.

} These are MATTERS OF FAITH

Conclusion: Expedients ARE, and always MUST BE, lawful (authorized by God), unspecified, choices, that edify the body of Christ; while not offending a weak brother. No addition or substitution to God's holy teaching can be considered as a matter of expediency.

In all things we must "speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent."

What must I do to be Saved ?

Hear Romans 10:14, 17

Believe John 8:24; Mark 16:16

Repent Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess Matthew 10:32

Be baptized in water Acts 2:38; 22:16

Remain faithful Revelation 2:10 b, Matthew 25:21

If you have questions, you may contact us at the following addresses or by phone:

Charlie Gant

Real County Church

P. O. Box 837

Leakey, Texas 78873-0837

E-mail: bible.questions@live.com

Phone: 830 232-4777