

# ABSURD, FRIVOLOUS, OUTLANDISH, OUTRAGEOUS, RIDICULOUS, SILLY, UNSERIOUS

When Abraham wanted a place to bury Sarah, Ephron forced him to buy far more land than he wanted to buy, and charged him a truly **ridiculous** price for it.

- **Genesis 23:15:** "My lord, hearken unto me: the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver; what is that betwixt me and thee? bury therefore thy dead."

When God said that He would provide meat for all of Israel for an entire month, Moses didn't believe Him. Moses thought it was utterly impossible and **ridiculous** (in spite of all the astonishing things he had seen God do, and in spite of the fact God literally provided the entire nation with food six days a week.)

- **Numbers 11:21:** "And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month."

When God provided Israel with quails three feet deep, which surrounded their camp for twenty miles in all directions, each Israelite gathered a truly **ridiculous** amount of quails per person. (Ten homers is 580 gallons of quail, which could feed a person for several *years*.)

- **Numbers 11:32:** "And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered

the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp."

Samson gave the 30 companions who attended his wedding feast a riddle about the dead lion that he killed, which had become home to bees. This was a completely unfair and **ridiculous** riddle to give. No one had any chance of figuring it out honestly.

- **Judges 14:14:** "And he said unto them, Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness. And they could not in three days expound the riddle."

Absalom wouldn't have gotten caught in a tree if he cut his hair more regularly, and didn't allow it to grow out to **absurd** lengths.

- **2 Samuel 18:9:** "And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away."

Eliphaz said that envy slays the **silly** man (which isn't always true).

- **Job 5:2:** "For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one."

God told Job that the leviathan couldn't be tamed and wouldn't serve people, yet it was a creature that God created. The Lord seems to have been using the leviathan to say that He was far greater than Job. If people couldn't capture the leviathan and force it to serve them, then the idea of holding God accountable and forcing Him to serve them was even more **ridiculous**.

- **Job 41:4-6:** "Will he make a covenant with thee? wilt thou take him for a servant for ever? Wilt thou play with him as with a bird? or wilt thou bind him for thy maidens? Shall the companions make a banquet of him? shall they part him among the merchants?"

God told Job that no weapon could harm the leviathan and it couldn't be defeated, yet it was a creature that God created. The Lord seems to have been using the leviathan to say that He was even greater than that animal, and the thought of Job defeating Him was even more **ridiculous**.

- **Job 41:7:-9** "Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons? or his head with fish spears? Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more. Behold, the hope of him is in vain: shall not one be cast down even at the sight of him?"

The words of a fool are so **outrageous** that they call for him to be beaten.

- **Proverbs 18:6:** "A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes."

Lazy people claim that working is too dangerous. They dream

up **ridiculous**, imaginary dangers and claim that those are the reason why nothing can be done. (In other words, one of the characteristics of lazy people is that they give very dumb excuses for why they can't work.)

- **Proverbs 22:13:** "The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets."

Lazy people look for every excuse to refuse to work, no matter how **ridiculous** it may be.

- **Proverbs 26:13:** "The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets."

Anger is **outrageous**.

- **Proverbs 27:4:** "Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?"

There are times when God does things that, before they take place, seem completely **ridiculous** and impossible.

- **Daniel 4:25:** "That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will."

Even though the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream was very wild, and seemed extremely unlikely and even **ridiculous**, Daniel was honest about what it meant. He didn't hide anything or try to make it seem more reasonable.

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In this parable, the servant didn't ask the king to forgive his debt. Instead he claimed he could pay it if we was given time (which was a **ridiculous** thing to say given the amount that he owed.)

- **Matthew 18:26:** "The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all."

The Sadducees asked Jesus a **ridiculous** question about seven brothers who married the same woman and then died (one after the other), with none of them having children with her.

- **Matthew 22:26-27:** "Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. And last of all the woman died also."

There are times when wicked people try to make the truth look **ridiculous** by asking questions that are based on an incorrect interpretation of what the word of God has to say.

- **Matthew 22:28:** "Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her."

There are times when wicked people try to make the truth

look **ridiculous** by coming up with crazy hypothetical situations that are far removed from reality.

- **Matthew 22:28:** "Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her."

The Sadducees asked Jesus whose wife a woman would be in the resurrection if she had seven different husbands before she died, ignoring the fact that the Law clearly taught that marriage ends after death. They were trying to make the resurrection look **ridiculous** by asking a question that was based on ignorance of the law.

- **Matthew 22:28:** "Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her."

When the Sadducees asked Jesus a **ridiculous** question that was based on an incorrect interpretation of the Mosaic Law, Jesus told them that they didn't know the Scriptures or the power of God.

- **Matthew 22:29:** "Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God."

The soldiers who guarded the tomb of Jesus agreed to lie about what happened. They agreed to tell people that they had fallen asleep while on watch, and that the disciples came and stole His body (which was a **ridiculous** lie.)

- **Matthew 28:13:** "Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept."

When some of the Jews heard the disciples speaking in their own native languages (which was a staggering miracle), they chose to ignore it. Instead of taking it seriously they mocked the disciples and claimed that they were drunk (which was a **ridiculous** and stupid interpretation of what was going on.)

- **Acts 2:13:** "Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine."

Paul didn't think it was unreasonable to say that the church needed to be blameless. He didn't think this was a **ridiculous** standard which was obviously impossible for any church to meet. He also never said that since it was impossible to be blameless, churches should just do the best they could and that would be fine.

- **Philippians 2:15:** "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;"

Women should be sober (as opposed to **silly** and foolish).

- **1 Timothy 2:9:** "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;"

Bishops must be sober (not **silly** or foolish).

- **1 Timothy 3:2:** "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;"

Church leaders must be sober minded, and not **frivolous**.

- **Titus 1:8:** "But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;"

Church leaders must be grave. They can't be unserious or **silly** or **frivolous** men.

- **Titus 2:7:** "In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,"