

John Kozlowski

From: John Kozlowski <John@Kozlowski.org>
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 5:32 PM
To: Render Caines (jcaines@covenantchattanooga.org)
Cc: DorothyJane@Kozlowski.org
Subject: RE: Render

Render,

We have heard about your illness and are grateful that the outlook has improved.

In reading the two emails you sent me below there seems to be an inherent wall put up. When I read things like “running debate” and “unwillingness to heed the advice of others” it seems that the case is closed. Knowing that these emails were meant in love, please allow me to state some of my case also with the understanding that it is based on love many that I can name at CPC.

I admit I take the “running debate” to mean that my evidence is inadmissible. I have often been in situations where bringing up evidence, theological or otherwise, to a discussion where I do not have the majority position, is rejected without review. It seems this is no different. Please correct me if I am wrong.

Stubbornness I will admit to, but I also head advice *that is convincing*. Dorothy-Jane can attest to the fact that when convinced by the arguments of others, I make radical and permanent changes. She, as well as numerous others, have presented their case to me and I have responded. However, I don’t head advice simply due to position or majority, but do to reasoned appeals to scripture or other facts. I grant you that on many issues I am in the minority in our culture and at CPC. I don’t do this for the fun of it, but out of conviction on issues. I don’t see any evidence that following Christ with zeal puts us in the majority.

Render, I am convinced that we share a love for the same Lord and His word to us. However, I believe much of the perspective of CPC is guided by culture rather than scripture.

You offered evidence of this when we met some months ago. You started you address by telling me an example of how many Old Testament commands do not apply today. You used Deu 22:8 “When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house, if anyone should fall from it.” If you recall I was clearly in disagreement that it is a non-applicable command and gave the example of a friend who lost his brother in a fall due to a weak “parapet.” He saw the Lord’s love in his command and nothing outdated. I suggest that reasoned building safety laws take their basis from this verse.

In your review of my “His Wages” project promoting daily paydays, you gave the often heard “that was cultural” argument. I choose the term “His Wages” from Deuteronomy 24:15, but as the website indicates, that is not the only applicable passage. The cultural argument fails to address Leviticus 19:9-18 where we are first introduced to the command to “love your neighbor as yourself.” What distinguishes verse 13 “The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning” from the rest of the passage that it can be taken culturally? I suggest nothing.

In numerous conversations in the church, as well as the empirical evidence from lifestyles, we are very different from the norm at CPC. From issues varying from “family planning” vs. “filling our quiver”, bottles vs. nursing, dating vs. courting, formal education vs. homeschool or apprenticeship, corporate employment vs. family enterprise, and of course babies in diapers it seems to be a closer affinity to the principles of the Communist Manifesto than the

scripture. I would be happy to state my case on any of those issues, but sense it would be fruitless. Again, correct me if I am wrong.

Finally, after receiving nothing beside “we will pray for you” and “you are wrong” from the leadership at CPC, and the only other suggestion that we simply don’t take Zadok to the bathroom at church, I believe I have ample evidence that it is time to move on. I have taken some advice years ago when by example I was told to “choose your battles.” I am involved in some very serious issues and this, as well as visits from representatives from our state, are distractions that I cannot afford. Therefore I will continue my course until reasoned evidence points to another direction.

You may share this with the leadership at CPC.

Respectfully,

John Kozlowski

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From: Render Caines [mailto:jcaines@covenantchattanooga.org]

Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 4:17 PM

To: John Kozlowski

Subject: RE: Render

John

I have been ill since Tuesday evening, but am now feeling considerably better.

I want you and your dear wife to understand that I do not take your actions personally. But I do the decision you have made and the steps you have taken are both wrong and misguided. John, you have consistently demonstrated to me an unwillingness to heed the advice of others, so I will say little more. But I am and will be willing to have you meet with me to discuss the present situation. Please be assured of our prayers.

Render

From: John Kozlowski [mailto:John@Kozlowski.org]

Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 11:38 AM

To: 'Render Caines'

Subject: RE: Render

Render,

I am watching these events attempt to rip my family apart like nothing ever has before. I must protect my wife and family as best I can.

Please do not take this as personal. May the Lord bless you, your family, and your church.

John Kozlowski

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From: Render Caines [<mailto:jcaines@covenantchattanooga.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2012 11:13 AM

To: John Kozlowski

Subject: Render

John,

I received your letter and will pass on your request to the Session. You know that I believe this is a terrible mistake. If you want to discuss that with me, I'm more than willing. But I will not get into a running debate with you. I love you and your family. It is hurtful to many to see you take this step. God bless.

Render