

# **The Methods of Madness**

*Ray Stedman*

## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: II Corinthians 10:3-5.
- B. We need to find an answer to social ills in light of Scripture.

## II. Believers cannot ignore the problems of the world.

- A. The Christian must not try to run away from the problems of life.
- B. Jesus longed to convey truth to the world.

## III. Believers cannot attack the social problems the way the world does.

- A. Believers fight in another dimension.
- B. The fight of believers is mighty.

## IV. The source of the enemy's strength.

- A. The church has been weak because it has neglected the power of the enemy and the resource of the church.
- B. Pillars of strength for evil.
  - 1. Arguments.
  - 2. Pride.
- C. These two pillars are linked together.
  - 1. The arguments are infected by pride.
  - 2. This prevents social programs from solving problems.

## V. Arguments.

- A. Every movement always comes about by an emotional outburst.
- B. This movement ultimately needs to be explained.
- C. When an emotion is rationalized, it becomes very difficult to overturn.
- D. There are doctrines of demons.
- E. Every movement has those who explain it good or bad.

1. Jesus explains the Father.

2. Eternal life is knowing Jesus and the Father through Him. (John 17)

F. Truth, love and righteousness are to be brought to bear against these arguments.

G. Arguments are demolished by the demonstration of gospel—this is the only way.

**Application questions:**

1. Why is it wrong for the Christian to isolate himself from the world?

---

---

2. What are arguments in the passage? How does pride relate to it?

---

---

3. Why is a demonstration of the gospel—and not just a declaration of it—necessary for abolishing arguments? Explain.

---

---