

Doctrine of Contradiction

1. When the Greek philosopher Aristotle (384 – 322 BC) organized his rules of logic, he viewed logic, not as a science, but as a necessary tool for all science.
2. Logic is a necessary condition for meaningful communication.

Special Note.

If a man holds up a piece of chalk and says in a soft voice, “This piece of chalk is not a piece of chalk”, it sounds profound, but it is a meaningless statement and makes intelligence nonsensical. It is a violation of the Law of Non-contradiction. It is boldly done, but it is wrong to do.

3. The Law of Non-contradiction is used often to undermine Christian theism. Logic demands the existence of God. When a person denies the Law of Contradiction, the argument is over. There is no “reasoning” with such a person.
4. If a person is to be rational, then the existence of God must be affirmed, even within the Christian community for the impact of existential philosophy upon the church is profound.

Special Note.

Tertullian asked, “What does Jerusalem have to do with Athens?”

5. Many Christians believe a person can believe in the Bible even if it is not true. Karl Barth insisted Christians should affirm both poles of a contradiction in order to be mature. The mark of maturity was to affirm both sides of a contradiction. Emil Brummer made the observation, “Contradiction is the hallmark of truth.” That is nonsense.
6. The God who speaks is the God who is rational. God speaks to us logically. God speaks to us truthfully.
7. In Genesis 3, God told Adam and Eve, that if they ate of the forbidden tree, they would die.
8. Liberal theologians would have us believe that what Satan said to Adam and Eve was equally valid to what God said to them.

Special Note.

After all, contradiction is the hallmark of truth. Since the serpent spoke the opposite of what God said, he must be speaking the truth. Therefore, since Satan is an agent of God, since both poles of the contradiction must be embraced, since good and evil can be known like God, Adam and Eve should eat of the forbidden fruit in order to be an obedient, mature, Christian.

9. All logic does is to measure the relationship between propositions. When two statements are made, the laws of logic will determine if they are consistent with one another, or contradictory. The truth of the conclusion is determined by the validity of the argument.

All men are mortal.
Socrates is a man.
Socrates is mortal.

- 10.** Logic is like a policeman God has put into the brain to recognize the lie. At the heart of the Christian faith is the presupposition that the Word of God is rational.