



The Debate!!! People getting ready for a 4 hour rousing discussion. This must've been like the early church when they gathered to discuss things of the Bible.

## Theology Month (Continued)

In last month's newsletter I wrote about a friend of mine and I having several discussions on theology and doctrine. All of it finally culminated by setting up a debate/forum on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Many people had become increasingly interested in these discussions, so a group of us thought it would be a good idea to get everyone together and hash it out.

My friend, Vic, was the moderator and out of the blue gave me one side to present. With the little time that I had, I quickly formed my thoughts and placed them on Power Point. The only problem was there were way too many ideas to share and way too many places to take the audience in only the 20 minutes that was allotted.

The day of the debate came and thankfully three of my friends from church came to support me. I was expecting at most maybe 10 people there. I was shocked to see over 20 people squeezing into a small upper room of a chiropractor's office. The debate, Q&A, and discussions afterwards went on from 2-6pm. All in all, I'd say it was a success in terms of (1) clarifying points of view and (2) where people stood theologically. However, my heart was grieved partly due to having such different beliefs of the interpretation of Scripture. How can we differ so vastly knowing we Christians have the same Bible and the same Holy Spirit? I go back to what I said last month... I wonder why God didn't make some topics clearer and relieve us of headache and heartache.

For more information, check out my website at [www.wongside.com/jeremy](http://www.wongside.com/jeremy)

Also, many times I like to send links and emails to my ministry partners showing more of my ministry with AIA. If you have an email address and would like to receive these notifications, please email me at [jmwong@wongside.com](mailto:jmwong@wongside.com)

## My Soapbox

(This is a short sharing of how God has impacted me in a profound way.)

### Jesus at the gas pump

I was at a gas station in Phoenix getting ready to travel back home to Tucson when two guys approached me. "Excuse me sir, could you spare a couple of bucks for some gas?" Now usually you don't have much time to think and for me my answer most often comes in the form of 'no.' But this time I found myself in an immediate 'yes' hoping to show generosity many people do not afford. I walked around to their pump and inserted my credit card, cautiously wondering how much gas they were going to pump. My mind was hoping this wasn't going to be too expensive. One guy said to the one pumping, "Just get a gallon" showing me they didn't want to overstep my offer. We talked briefly as the flow of gas quickly stopped. Already I could tell they didn't get much. I asked for the receipt so I could jot it down in my budget. As they handed it to me, they said, with much appreciation, "thanks" and off they went to their destination. I looked down at the receipt in my hand to see what this small token was going to cost. Three dollars and sixty-six cents.

Now why am I sharing this story with you? It's not to say I said 'yes' when many would say 'no.' Rather it's to tell you I didn't give enough. I think to myself *C'mon seriously \$3.66... that's all I gave? What if God only gave me the metaphorically speaking "\$3.66?" I'm pretty sure God has given me a little more than that. That's right, Jesus gave His life for me.*

I'm not sure why this incident has stirred my heart, only to say the Spirit was telling me to give more. Give more of my life, my time, my energy, my finances and resources. If I could do it over again I would've filled their tank full. Maybe that would have caught them by surprise, maybe not. But still, I trust that God will use that \$3.66 in some small way to reveal His generosity to humanity. After all, He has already revealed it to me.