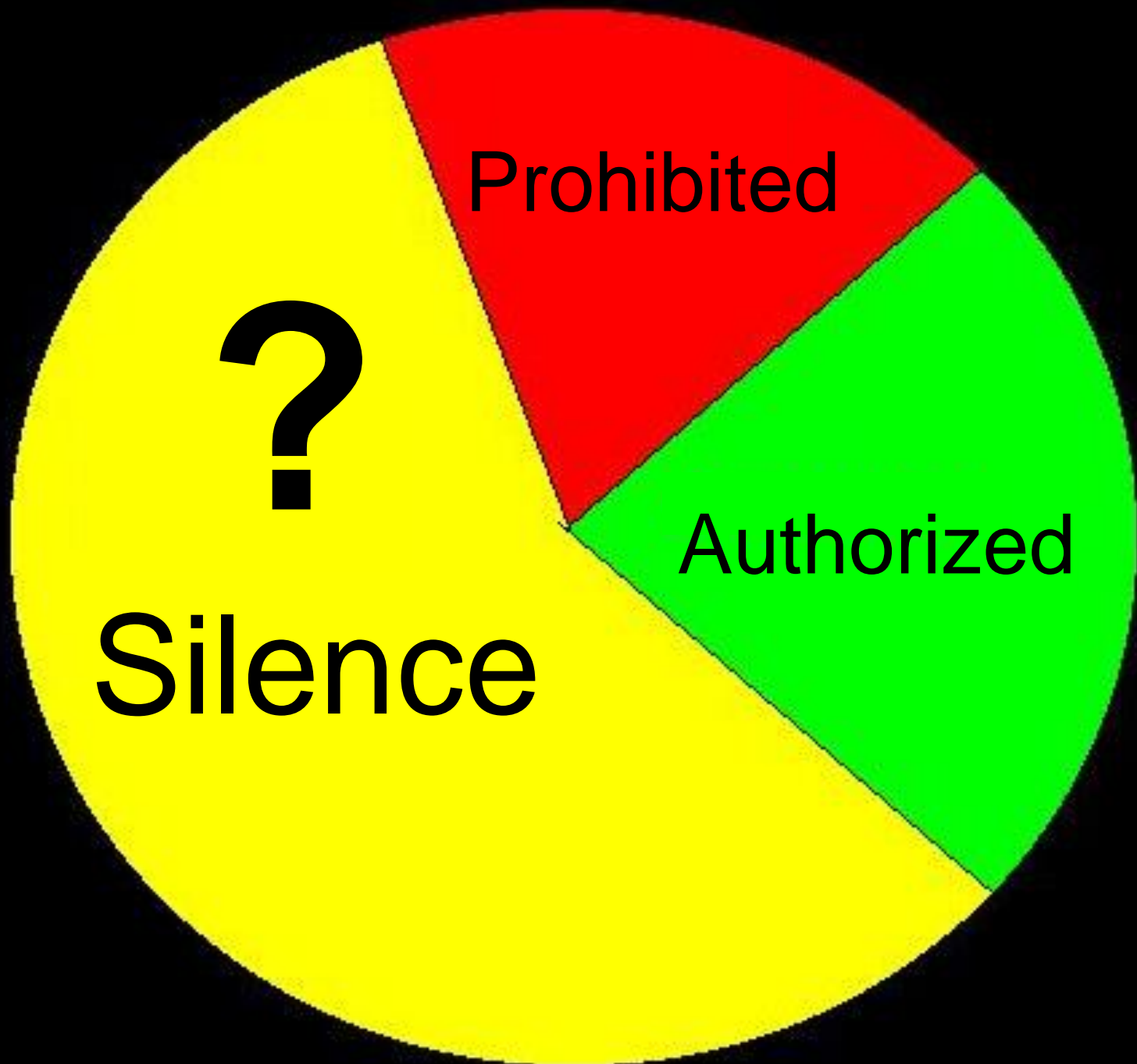


Silence of the Scriptures

Authority of the Bible

Matthew 21:23-27

- By What Authority ?
- John's Baptism ?
- TWO answers
 - God or man
 - Either God authorized it –
or He did NOT



Tertullian

- Ca. 150-222
- Some: “the thing which is not forbidden is freely permitted.”
- Tertullian:
 - “ I should rather say that what has not been freely allowed is forbidden.”

John Wycliff and John Huss

- Utraquists – forbade **ONLY** those practices specifically condemned by the Bible, thus tolerating anything without explicit condemnation.
- Taborites: rejected all practices for which express warrant in the Bible could not be found.

Taborites

Rejecting what NOT authorized = Reject

- Transubstantiation
- Prayers for the dead
- Indulgences
- Priestly confession
- Dancing
- Etc.

Does Silence Authorize?

Two views espoused during the reformation movement



Martin Luther
1483-1546

“whatever is without the word of God is, by that very fact, against God.”

Deut. 4:2, etc.

Does Silence Authorize?

Two views espoused during the reformation movement



Martin Luther
1483-1546

**“Whatever is not
against scripture
is for scripture,
and scripture for
it”**

*[Handbook of Denominations,
pg. 132]*

Does Silence Authorize?

Two views espoused during the reformation



Martin Luther
1483-1546

*Silence gives
us liberty to
act as we
see best*

Does Silence Authorize?

Two views espoused during the reformation



**Silence
Does
NOT
authorize**

***“What the Bible
does not
command we may
not do,”***

(Col 3:17)

**Ulrich Zwingli –
1484-1531**

Does Silence Authorize?

Two views espoused during the reformation



Gave up images, crosses, indulgences, observing the mass, and the practice of celibacy, and the use of organs in the church on the basis of this principle.

**Ulrich Zwingli –
1484-1531**

[The Discovery And Reformation –
[<http://www.wsu.edu/~dee/REFORM/ZWINGLI.HTM>]

Does Silence Authorize?

Two views espoused during the reformation

"While Luther was disposed to leave untouched what the Bible did not prohibit, Zwingli was more inclined to reject what the Bible did not enjoin."

(The Reformation, 1899, p. 145, Joe Neil Clayton, The Thunderous Silence Of God, p. 70 quoted from George P. Fisher)

WHY Luther over Zwingli view?

- Zwingli – died 1531
- Luther – died 1546
- Influence became stronger -

A Principle of life

- Purpose of an organization
- When placing an order ...
- Doctor and pharmacist ...

Deut. 4:2

- Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Deut. 12:32

- What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Proverbs 30:5-6

- Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Why? We are Not God

- 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isa. 55:8-9

Prov. 14:12

- 12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Jeremiah 10:23

- 23 I know, O LORD, that the way of man is not in himself, that it is not in man who walks to direct his steps.

2 John 1:9-10

- Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

Revelation 22:18-19

- For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, *If any man shall add unto these things,* God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

1 Corinthians 4:6

- And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us *not to think of men above that which is written*, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.

1 Cor. 4:6 NKJV

- Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us *not to think beyond what is written*, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.

2 John 9

Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

Illustrations of such

- Nadab & Abihu –
 - strange fire –
 - which ‘not commanded’

Illustrations of such

- Uzzah and the Ark –
 - Not follow the due order

Illustrations of such

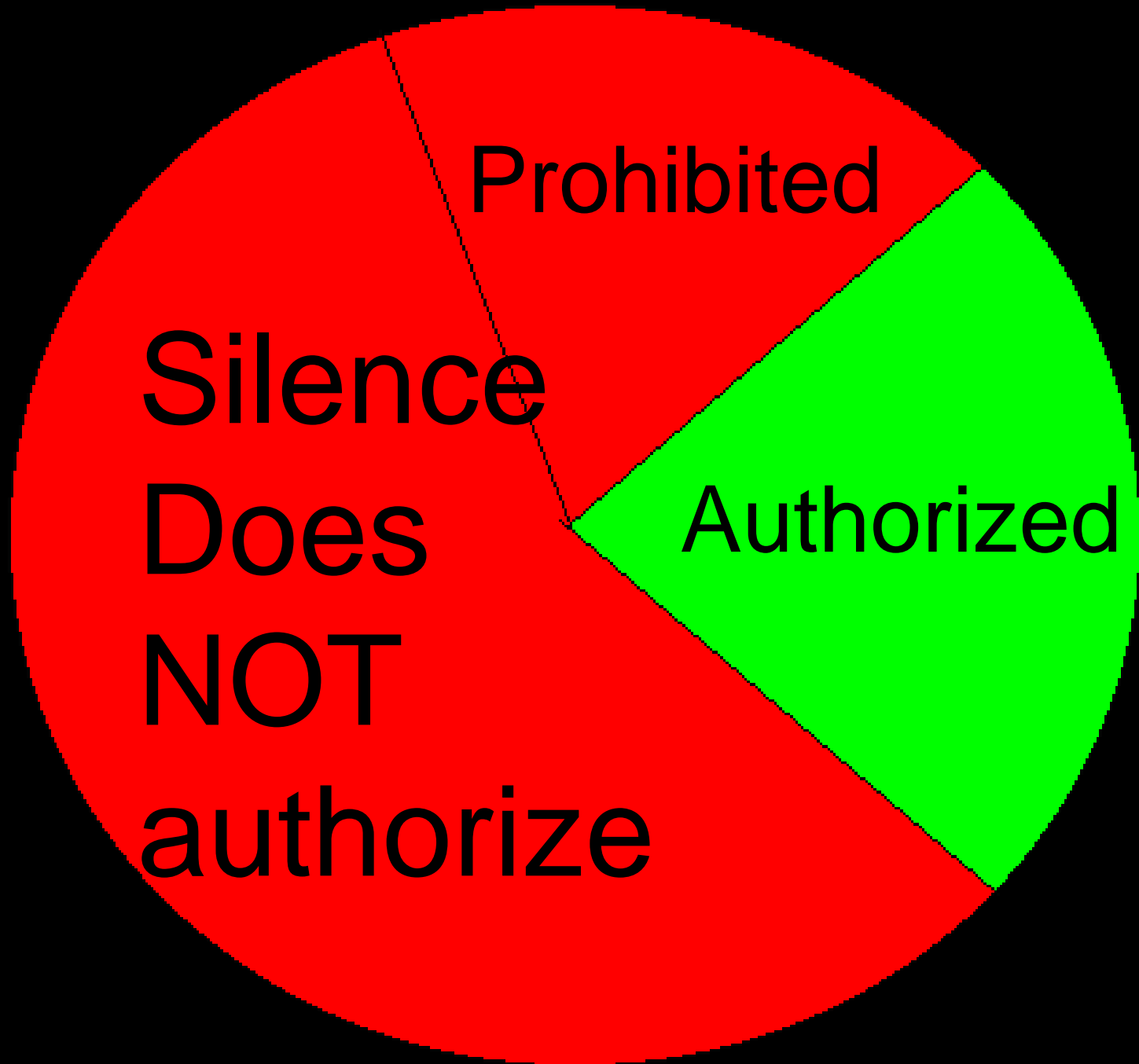
- Moses and the rock –
 - NOT told NOT TO strike the rock

Illustrations of such

- Jesus and the priesthood –
 - ‘spoke nothing concerning’
 - HENCE change the LAW in order to ALLOW!

Hebrews 7:11-14

If 'silence' is permissive –
HOW would one ADD
wrongfully?



Applying the principle

- Women elders .. ?

- ‘hush’

Doesn't say NOT TO

1 Tim. 3:2

Applying the principle

- Cardinals, Arch-Bishops
Popes, etc.

Doesn't say NOT TO

— elders in every church —

Acts 14:23

Applying the Principle

- Names –

- Lutheran, Presbyterian, Campbellite, etc.

Doesn't say NOT TO

- Called Christians - Acts 11:26

Applying the principle

- Cookies and cake for the Lord's supper ...

Doesn't say NOT TO

eat of the vine...

Applying the principle

- Play an instrument ...

– SING

– EAT

Doesn't say NOT TO

Col. 3:16

Applying the principle

- Sprinkle as a religious practice ?

Doesn't say NOT TO

1 Tim. 6:3-4

Applying the principle

- ‘baptize infants’ .. ???

– he that believeth

Doesn't say NOT TO

Mark 16:16

– when they believed they were
baptized .. Acts 8:12

Generic vs Specific

- Generic –
 - specifics may not be spoken of but allowed within this category.
 - But when God specifies
 - NOT make GENERIC

General Authority

- Make an Ark
- GO
- Teach
- Come Together
- Sing

Includes expediency

- Any tool to AID
- Walk, sail, ride, etc.
- Overhead, handouts
- Building, lights, seats
- Books,

Specific Authority

- Make an Ark
- Gopher wood
- Passover lamb
- baptize
- Sing

Excludes addition /change

- Rowboat, canoe,..
- Oak, pine, beech...
- Heifer, goat, dove
- Sprinkle, pour
- Play

