

A Redeemed Use of Rhetoric

EBC Sunday School 7/9/2017

“What has Athens to do with Jerusalem?”

Augustine, On Christian Doctrine 4.2 → *Now, the art of rhetoric being available for the enforcing [of] either of truth or falsehood, who will dare to say that truth in the person of its defenders is to take its stand unarmed against falsehood? ... Who is such a fool as to think this wisdom? Since, then, the faculty of eloquence is available for both sides, and is of very great service in the enforcing either of wrong or right, why do not good men study to engage it on the side of truth, when bad men use it to obtain the triumph of wicked and worthless causes, and to further injustice and error?*

Definitions of rhetoric →

Classical Rhetoric

Biblical Rhetoric

Homer's rhetoric as a source of values

God's use of rhetoric

Plato's Gorgias

Role of prophets

Aristotle On Rhetoric

Proverbs description

- Logos/Pathos/Ethos

Cicero / Ad Herennium

Preaching (OT, Christ, Paul, etc.)

- Five canons
- teach/delight/move
- Six parts of discourse

What similarities and differences can you think of here? Things to emphasize? Things to downplay? Other applications?

KEY PASSAGES {list here} →

MATTHEW 12:33-37