

The Know-It-All

When Charles Spurgeon was still a boy preacher, he was warned about a certain woman with a reputation for being extremely quarrelsome. He was told that she intended to give him a tongue-lashing the moment she saw him next.

Spurgeon thought, "All right, but that's a game two can play."

Shortly thereafter, she met him and began to assault him with a flood of verbal abuse. He simply smiled back at her and said, "Oh, yes, thank you. I am quite well. Thank you for asking. I hope you are the same."

His remarks were followed by another tirade of know-it-all comments, this time voiced at a slightly higher volume. He responded again, smiling quietly, "Yes, it does look rather as if it might rain. I think I had better be getting on."

"Bless the man!" the woman exclaimed and then concluded, "He's as deaf as a post. What's the use of storming at him!"

Never again did she assault Spurgeon with her arguments. And never did he tell her what he had done.

There's no point in arguing with know-it-all people. It is better to let them have their say and walk on. The only fool bigger than the person who knows it all is the person who argues with him.

--Beecher Hunter