

Part 1 - We cannot measure progress in application - pages 311-313

“Control is at the very heart of our relationship with God. He wants us to be _____, walking by faith. Because measurement is essential for control, it can be a problem in striving for dependence and faith” - pp. 312

Quantitative aspects of the Christian life are _____ - i.e. hours of Bible reading, prayer, number of witnessing encounters, etc., *“but the qualitative dimension of the Christian life is, for the most part, unmeasurable. The time a person spends in prayer is measurable; the quality of that prayer is not.”*

“God has designed the Christian life so that the _____ that are important in God’s economy can only be attained by maintaining a posture of dependence and faith.”

“Measurement should not be confused with evaluation. Evaluation has no standard; it is _____”
i.e. the only actual standard is that of Christ Himself - and every Christian will fall short of that standard. We can evaluate increasing maturity by comparing our attitudes and actions of the present with what they had been in the past.

Rule 21 - Circumstances do not indicate God’s approval or disapproval - pp. 313-14

We evaluate circumstances _____ than God does. His goal is to conform us to the image of Christ - so in His providence He may allow us to go through hard situations so that will happen. We view that as negative, but it is a positive from God’s perspective - James 1:2-4

_____ is an example of having to re-evaluate circumstances from God’s perspective.

Job’s three friends made _____ conclusions about Job’s circumstances concluding Job must have sinned or he would not be suffering - and God eventually rebuked them for it.

Rule 22 - The validity of personal application is not dependent on another’s acceptance of approval - pages 314-315

The Bible calls us to do things that appear _____ and risky - example: Luke 9:23-24

Abraham’s _____ pushed him to do things that would not have received approval by others

Neither the _____ of any of God’s commands nor their application is determined by the acceptance or approval of another person. It must be based in the word of God.

Caution: There is _____ in godly counsel. Do not ignore what other godly people say, but place the priority on God’s word and remember that the opinion of others is just that - opinion.

Rule 23- We must resist the temptation to judge others as less spiritual when they do what the Lord has forbidden us to do. Pages 316-317

“The common core of application that we all share is the standard expressed in the _____ commands of the Bible.” (God’s commands are incumbent on all people)

Legalism will place _____ restrictions on people

Machen said, *“When the church forbids what God allows; it soon _____ what God forbids.”*

Motivations will _____ - and often are not known clearly.

Transgression of a clear _____ must be dealt with by the church -example: 1 Cor. 5:1-5

Personal convictions may restrict us from something while _____ restricting others - we cannot judge them for their exercise of their freedom in Christ - Colossians 2:16-17

A better passage - _____: "gray areas" and the stronger & weaker brother - concluding in verse 23 - "*Whatever is not from faith in sin.*"

PART 2 - The objectives of applying God's word to our lives are to please God, to strive for moral excellence, and to leave a godly legacy.

Please God - 1 Thessalonians 4:1; _____

Strive for Moral Excellence - _____; Philippians 4:8

Leave a Godly legacy - Psalm 78:1-4; 145:4; _____; Ephesians 6:4

Rule 24 - The path to intellectual excellence is curiosity, investigation, and experimentation; but the path to moral excellence is obedience

Faith includes an element of _____ in doing what God says - the risk is always toward being moral, never immoral. Romans 16:19 & 1 Corinthians 14:20

The path to moral excellence is always _____ - Colossians 3:5-17 - put off the old man & mortify his ways, put on the new man and walk in Christian virtues

The scientific method is not appropriate for moral matters for it only leads to _____. The evidence of negative consequences of evil are obvious without experiencing them personally

Rule 25 - Our conduct, good or bad, will affect the generations to follow

Our _____ will reap the positive benefits or negative consequences of our actions.

Example: _____ God's condemnation of the Amalekites - carried out many generations later by Saul - 1 Samuel 15:1-3

Example: _____ - the soul that sins shall die - God does not punish for the sins of a different generation, but the consequences of those sins carry out because they teach the next generation to do the same thing. Likewise, the blessing of the righteous is the passing down of righteous behavior.

Illustration: Abraham → Isaac → Jacob. They _____ both Abraham's strengths and weaknesses

A godly individual can reject a sinful example and be _____ - example: Josiah - 2 Kings 22

A sinful individual can reject a godly example and be _____ - example: Manasseh - 2 Chron 33
1 Kings 14:6-14

What a person does appreciably _____ his progeny - vs. 10

Children generally _____ their father's sins - vs. 13

There are things _____ than death (vs. 13). Life must be focused on living as an obedient servant of the Lord - not escaping death.

People argue that actions today will not effect what happens in later years - but they do - _____

Psalm 90:12 - _____ for using the days of your life