

Grace, Sanctification, and the Definitive Characteristics of a Biblical Discipleship Model

Christopher Cone, Th.D, Ph.D, Ph.D


calvary.edu
drcone.com



Two Views on Discipleship and Sanctification

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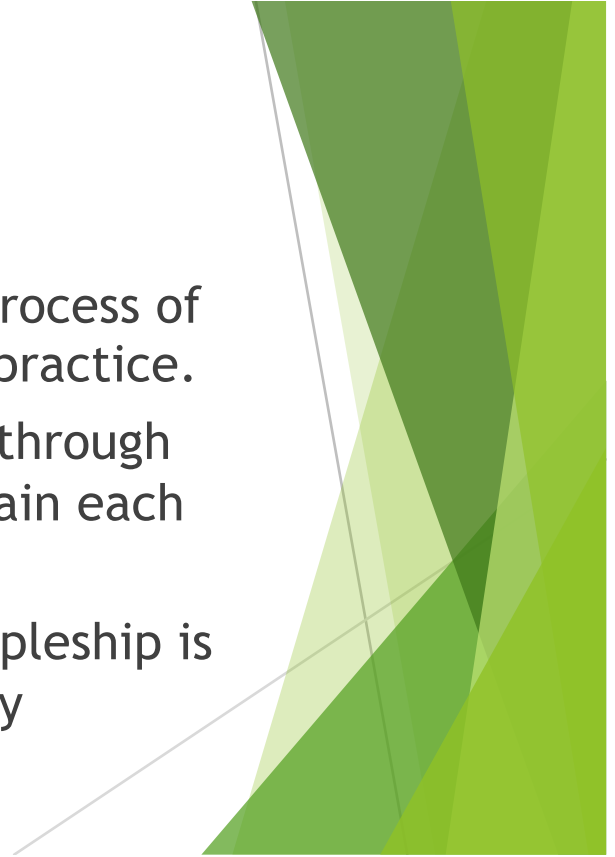
▶ “What we do to another man and *how* we do it is tightly bound up in what we believe about that man.”



Jay Adams, *The Christian Counselor's Manual* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1973), 71-72.

Definitions

- ▶ **Sanctification** - the progressive process of being made holy in maturity and practice.
- ▶ **Discipleship** - the process in and through which believers encourage and train each other in sanctification.
- ▶ Sanctification is the growth, discipleship is one of the vehicles (God's fatherly discipline is another).

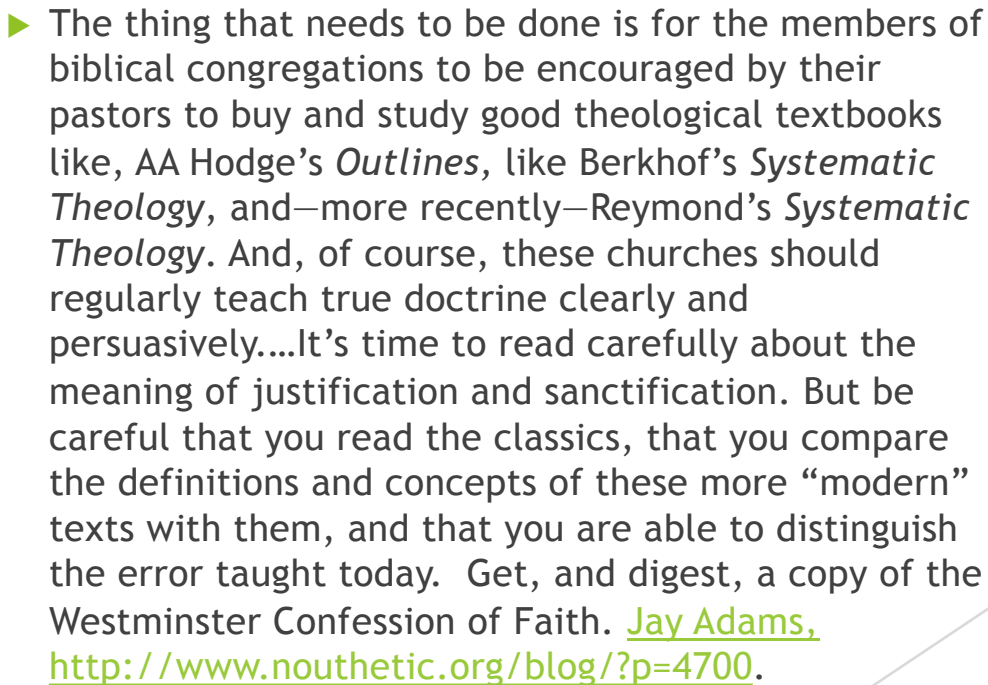


2 Systems: Same Desired Outcome

- ▶ Eph 4:12-13 - for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; **until we all attain** to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.
- ▶ 1 Pet 1:14-16 - As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours in your ignorance*, but like the Holy One who called you, **be holy yourselves also in all *your behavior***; because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”
- ▶ The destination is not the question, **how to get there is.**

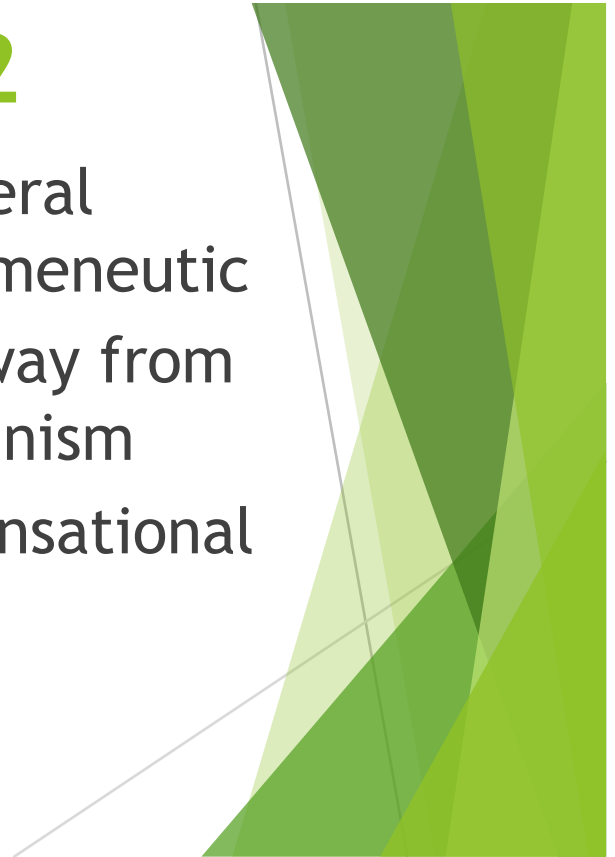
System 1

- ▶ Methodology: Creedal, historical theology primacy, sometimes literal grammatical historical
- ▶ Tendency: away from grace-based, toward lordship and Calvinism
- ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ Reformed theology
 - ▶ Covenant theology
 - ▶ New Covenant theology
 - ▶ Progressive covenantalism
 - ▶ Progressive dispensationalism

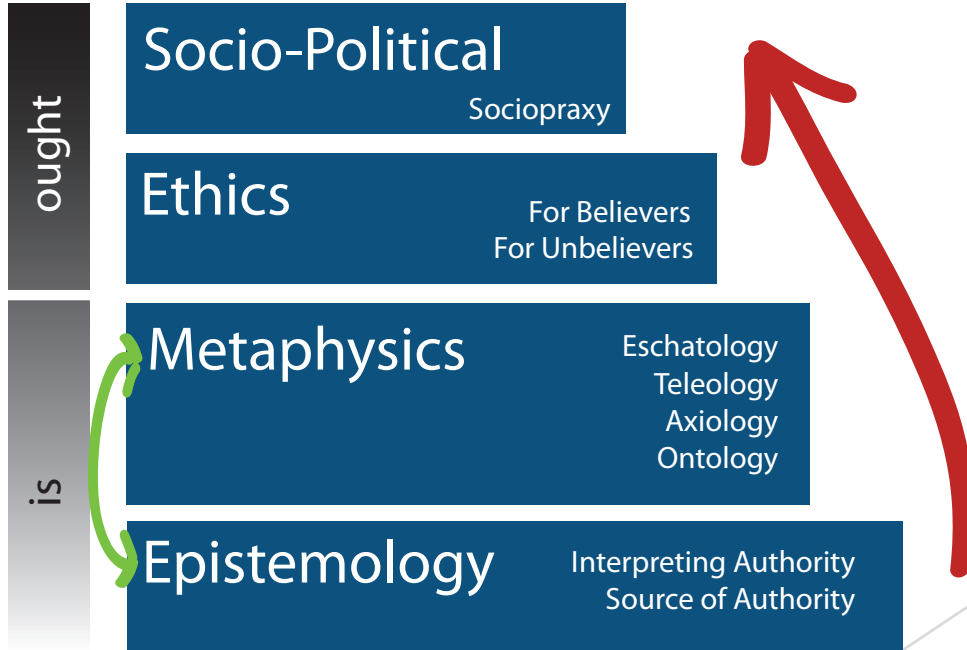
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- ▶ The thing that needs to be done is for the members of biblical congregations to be encouraged by their pastors to buy and study good theological textbooks like, AA Hodge’s *Outlines*, like Berkhof’s *Systematic Theology*, and—more recently—Reymond’s *Systematic Theology*. And, of course, these churches should regularly teach true doctrine clearly and persuasively....It’s time to read carefully about the meaning of justification and sanctification. But be careful that you read the classics, that you compare the definitions and concepts of these more “modern” texts with them, and that you are able to distinguish the error taught today. Get, and digest, a copy of the Westminster Confession of Faith. [Jay Adams, http://www.nouthetic.org/blog/?p=4700.](http://www.nouthetic.org/blog/?p=4700)

System 2

- ▶ Methodology: rooted in literal grammatical historical hermeneutic
- ▶ Tendency: grace-based, away from lordship, balanced on Calvinism
- ▶ Example: Traditional dispensational theology



Components of Worldview



4 Distinctions

- ▶ Role of Law: Basis vs. Tutor
- ▶ Perseverance of Saints vs. Eternal Security
- ▶ 1 Nature vs. 2 Natures
- ▶ Fruit: Necessary vs. Possible



4 Distinctions

- ▶ **Role of Law: Basis vs. Tutor**
- ▶ **Perseverance of Saints vs. Eternal Security**
- ▶ **1 Nature vs. 2 Natures**
- ▶ **Fruit: Necessary vs. Possible**



Role of the Law: Basis of Morality

- ▶ Continuity - three categories of Law (moral, civil, ceremonial) all still in effect.
 - ▶ Theonomy, Reconstructionism
 - ▶ Rooted in authority is law (good is being like God)
- ▶ SemiContinuity - moral Law still in effect for sanctification
 - ▶ Rooted in authority is law (good is being like God)



Role of the Law: Basis of Morality (Continuity)

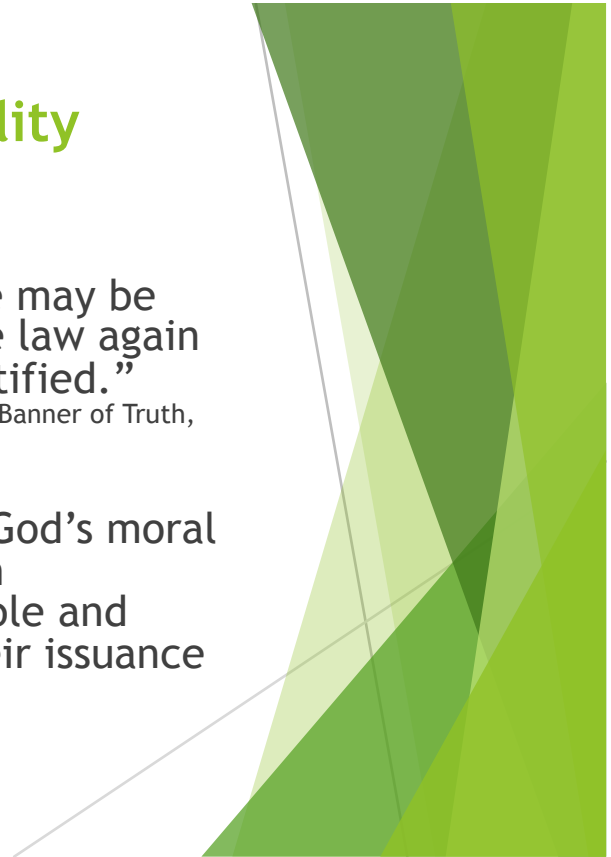
- ▶ “The accomplishment of redemption changes the way in which we observe the ceremonial law, and the change of culture and times alters the specific ways in which we observe the case laws. The cases are different but the same moral principles remain.” (Greg Bahnsen, “The Faculty Discussion of Theonomy,” Question 9, <http://www.cmfnow.com/articles/pe192.htm>, 1978, at RTS)
- ▶ The James 2:10 problem

Role of the Law: Basis of Morality (Semi-Continuity)

- ▶ The prevailing view of the church (David Jones, *Introduction to Biblical Ethics* (Nashville: TN, B&H Academic, 2013), 76.)
- ▶ Acts 15 ruled the ceremonial law not applicable to NT believers
- ▶ NT voices approval of non-theocratic governments (e.g., Rom 13:1-5, 1 Pet 2:13-17), thus civil law, not applicable
- ▶ Moral law is for sanctification (Jones, 139)
- ▶ Rooted in authority is law (weak)

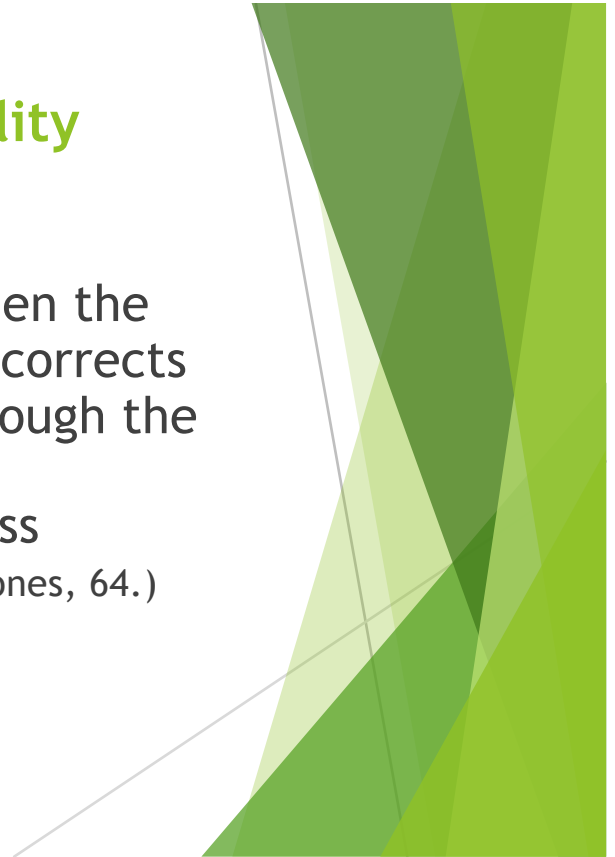
Role of the Law: Basis of Morality (Semi-Continuity)

- ▶ “The law sends us to the gospel that we may be justified, and the gospel sends us to the law again to enquire what is our duty in being justified.”
(Samuel Bolton, *True Bonds of Christian Freedom* (London:UK, Banner of Truth, 1964), 80)
- ▶ “Since the Decalogue is a reflection of God’s moral character, the norms codified in the Ten Commandments are universally applicable and demonstrable both before and after their issuance on Mount Sinai.” (Jones, 139.)

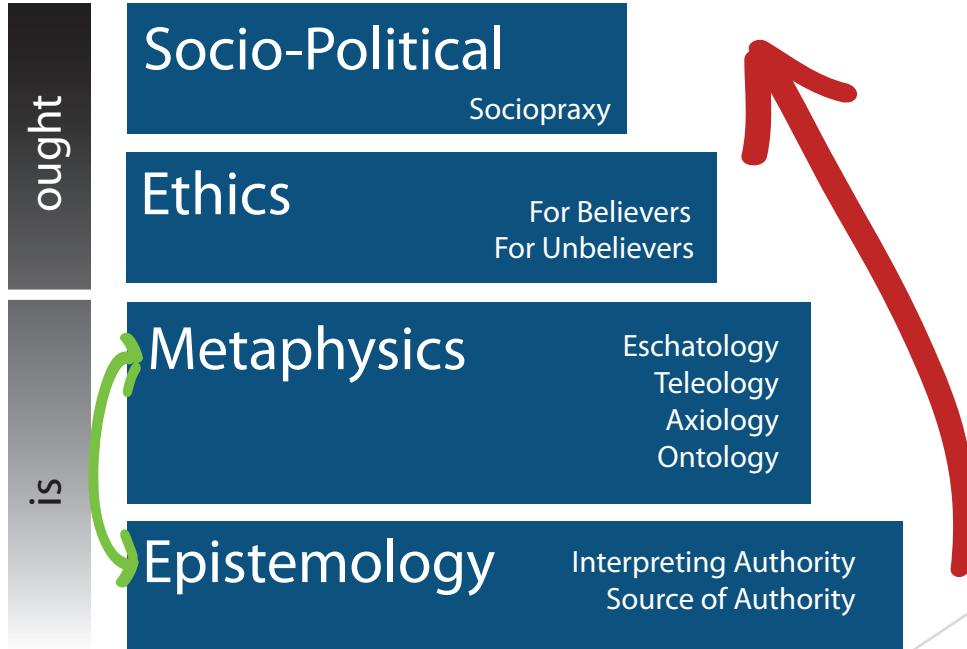


Role of the Law: Basis of Morality (Semi-Continuity)

- ▶ “As the kingdom of God grows, then the gospel gradually counteracts and corrects the effects of sin in the world through the process of restoration and reconciliation...the gospel is no less comprehensive than the fall...” (Jones, 64.)
- ▶ The James 2:10 problem



Components of Worldview

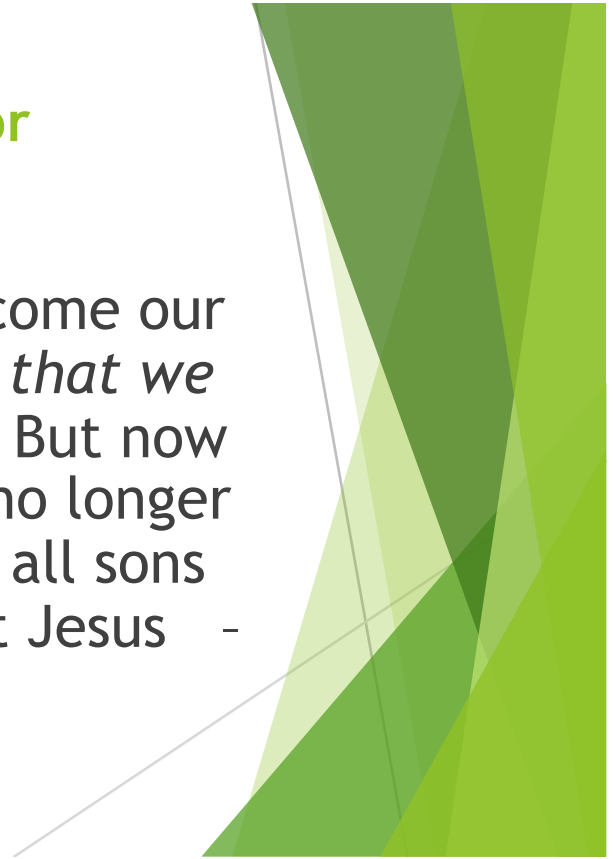


Role of the Law: Basis of Morality (Semi-Continuity)

- ▶ “For Christians, then, the Sabbath is a sign of redemption and, as such, it depicts the eternal rest they have received from Jesus in salvation...Keeping the Sabbath ought not to be a legalistic burden, characterized by lists of permitted and forbidden activities. Rather the Sabbath ought to be a joyous celebration and a blessing...In a specific sense the fourth commandment calls believers to observe a regular day of worship...not to observe the Sabbath, in either a broad or a specific sense, is to behave in a distinctly un-Christlike manner...in the NT...the early church moved the day of Sabbath observance to the first day of the week.” (Jones, 166.)
- ▶ The James 2:10 problem

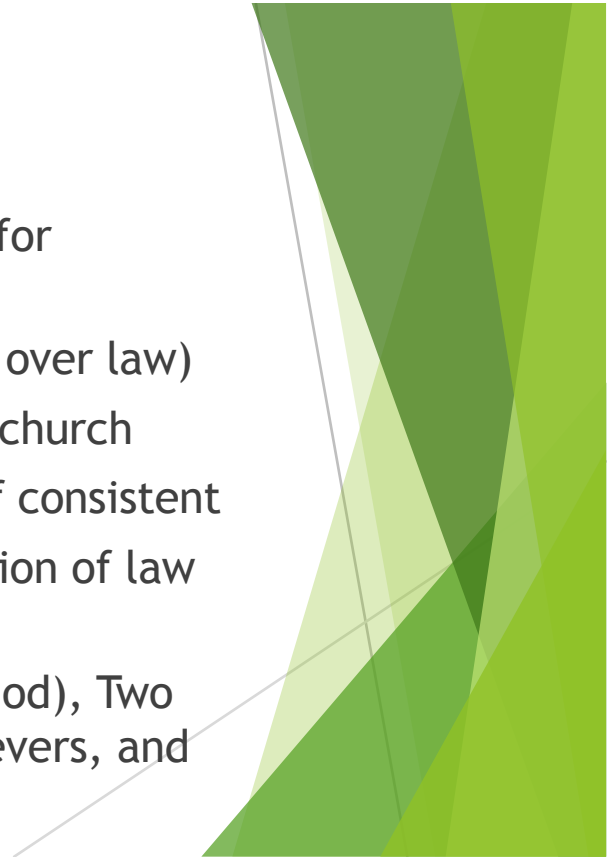
Role of the Law: Fulfilled/Tutor (Discontinuity)

- ▶ 24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.* 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus - Gal 3:24-26



Role of the Law: Fulfilled/Tutor (Discontinuity)

- ▶ Discontinuity - the Law not applicable for sanctification
 - ▶ Rooted in authority over law (God is over law)
- ▶ Mosaic Law not ethically applicable to church
- ▶ Must be rooted in authority over law, if consistent
- ▶ Cannot make use of the threefold division of law if consistent
- ▶ One ethical standard (the holiness of God), Two distinct ethics applications: for unbelievers, and believers



4 Distinctions

- ▶ Role of Law: Basis vs. Tutor
- ▶ Perseverance of Saints vs. Eternal Security
- ▶ 1 Nature vs. 2 Natures
- ▶ Fruit: Necessary vs. Possible



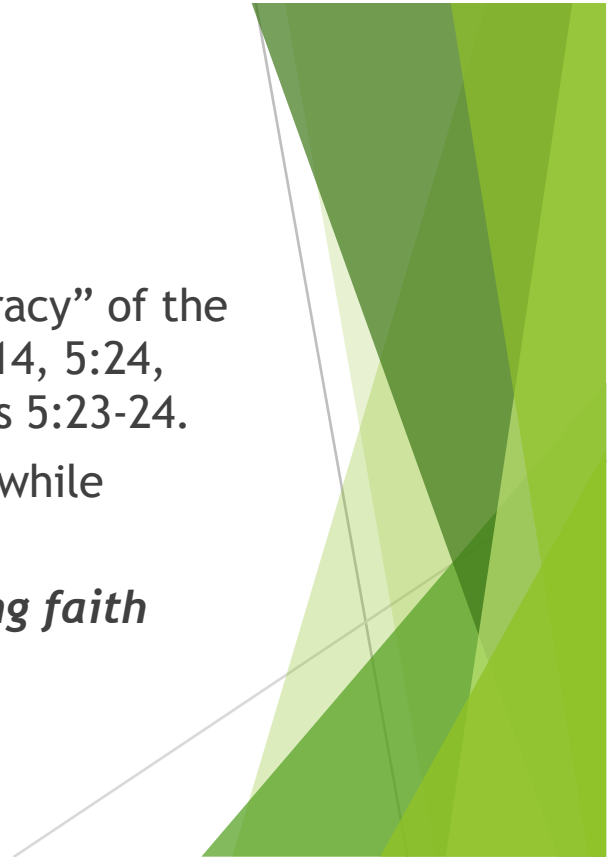
Perseverance of Saints

- ▶ “This is a historic doctrine...they actually called it perseverance, and they named it correctly...
- ▶ “They whom God hath accepted in his beloved Son effectually called and sanctified by his Spirit can neither totally nor finally fall away from a state of grace, but shall certainly persevere therein to the end and be eternally saved.”
- ▶ That is the biblically accurate and well-summarized statement of the perseverance of the saints in The Westminster Confession. And frankly, that statement needs no amending. It needs no altering. As it stands, it is biblically accurate.” - John

MacArthur, The Perseverance of the Saints, Part 1, <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/90-270/the-perseverance-of-the-saints-part-1>.

Perseverance of Saints

- ▶ MacArthur supports the “biblical accuracy” of the WC statement with Jn 3:16 and 18, 4:14, 5:24, 6:37, and 10:27-29, 1 Cor 1:8-9, 1 Thes 5:23-24.
- ▶ Each of these are passive, not active, while “persevering” is active.
- ▶ “The WC accurately affirms that *saving faith* cannot fail.”



Perseverance of Saints

- ▶ “it is important to understand that not only does perseverance not mean perfection, but it also does not mean that anyone and everyone who “accepts” Christ can therefore live any way they like without any fear of hell. It is not enough to have a **superficial faith** in Christ. It is not enough to have a superficial commitment to Christ, a superficial interest in Christ. It is not enough to have some good feelings about Jesus and **make some momentary commitment to him. That is not what the Westminster Confession was saying.**
- ▶ And that is why - this is important - the correct way to describe this doctrine is the “perseverance of the saints” rather than “eternal security.” - MacArthur

Perseverance of Saints

- ▶ In [John 8:31-32](#), Jesus said, “You’re my true disciple if you continue in my Word.” True disciples continue in faith and they don’t live like non-believers.
- ▶ A person who’s “accepted” Jesus, made a decision for Jesus, prayed a prayer, and goes on to live in a sinful pattern of life with no fear of hell because they think they’re eternally secure is deluded. That’s why we have to be careful when we talk about the doctrine of eternal security as if the one prayer makes you forever secure. And by the way, this is what is taught by many people.
- ▶ All those people who deny the doctrine of the Lordship of Christ, all those non-Lordship people, affirm that one prayer prayed one time makes you eternally secure without perseverance. That is a misrepresentation of what scripture teaches and that’s why I wrote the book *The Gospel According to Jesus* and the follow up, *The Gospel According to the Apostles*. - MacArthur

Eternal Security

- ▶ Truly truly I say to you, the believing one has (present tense) eternal life - Jn 6:47
- ▶ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus -Rom 8:1
- ▶ In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.* - Eph 1:13-14

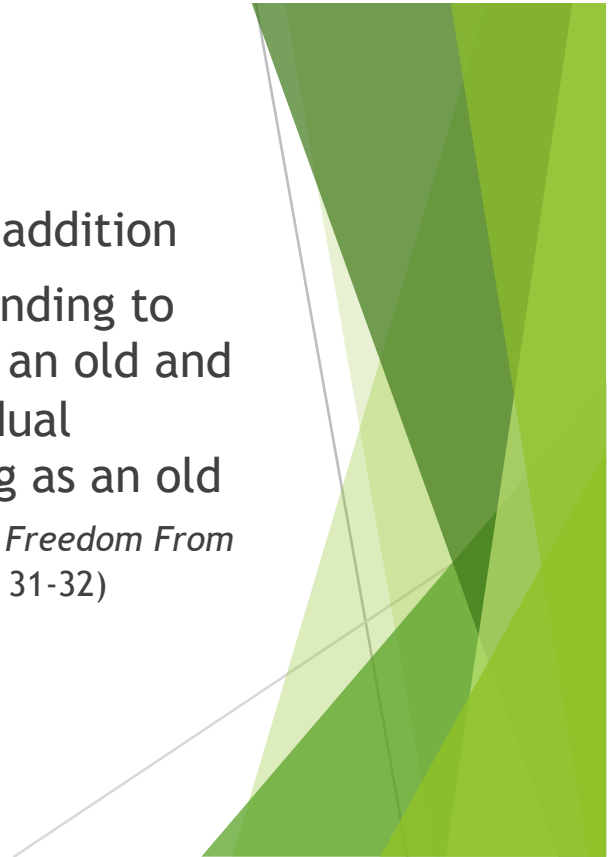
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1 Nature

- ▶ Regeneration = transformation, not addition
- ▶ "I believe it is a serious misunderstanding to think of the believer as having both an old and new nature. Believers do not have dual personalities...there is no such thing as an old nature in the believer" (John MacArthur, *Freedom From Sin Romans 6-7* (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1987), 31-32)

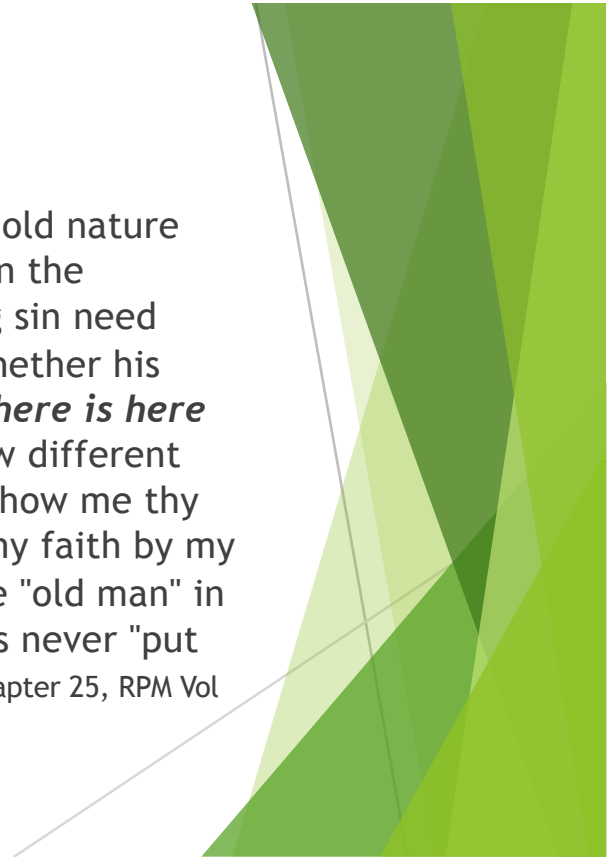


1 Nature

- ▶ His point is that his failure to put into action what he wills to do shows that there is something besides himself involved in the situation. If we had only to do with him, in the sense of that part of him which agrees with God's law and wills to do it, we would not be able to explain why he consistently does what he does not want to do. No, Paul reasons, there must be another "actor" in the drama, another factor that interferes with his performance of what he wants to do. This other factor is indwelling sin. - Douglas Moo, *The Epistle to the Romans*, NICOT (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996) 457-458

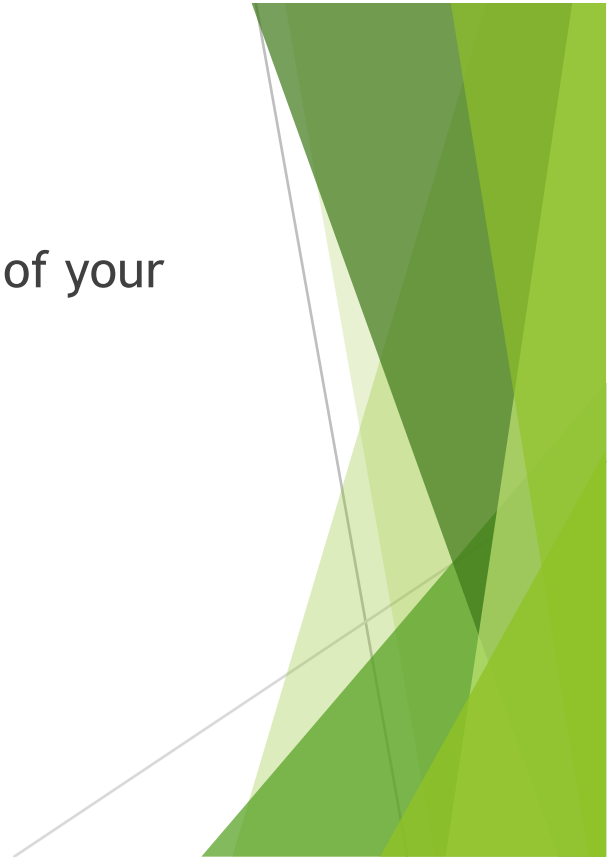
1 Nature

- ▶ If the new nature is complete at first; and the old nature never loses any of its strength until death; then the presence, and even the flagrancy of indwelling sin need suggest to the believer no doubts whatever, whether his faith is spurious. ***How can it be denied that there is here terrible danger of carnal security in sin?*** How different this from the Bible which says (James 2:18), "Show me thy faith without thy works; and I will show thee my faith by my works." If then any professed believer finds the "old man" in undiminished strength, this is proof that he has never "put on the new man". R.L. Dabney, Systematic Theology, Chapter 25, RPM Vol 17, Num. 4, Jan 18-24, 2015: 18.



2 Natures

- ▶ Be transformed by the renewing of your mind...Rom 12:2



2 Natures

- ▶ I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin. - Rom 7:21-25

2 Natures

- ▶ But a natural (**psuchikos**) man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. But **he who is spiritual (pneumatikos)** appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ. And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to **spiritual (pneumatikos) men**, but as to **men of flesh (sarkinois)**, as to **infants (nepiois) in Christ**. - 1 Cor 2:14-3:1

2 Natures

- ▶ Regeneration = addition, not transformation.
- ▶ “The Scriptures teach that every regenerate person is the possessor of two natures: one, received by natural birth, which is wholly and hopelessly bad; and a new nature, received through the new birth, which is the nature of God Himself, and therefore wholly good.
- ▶ The believer, while still having his old nature, unchanged and unchangeable, has received a new nature which ‘after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.’ It will be seen that regeneration is a creation, not a mere transformation—the bringing in a new thing, not the change of an old.” (C.I. Scofield, *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth*, “The Believer’s Two Natures”)

4 Distinctions

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Fruit: Necessary

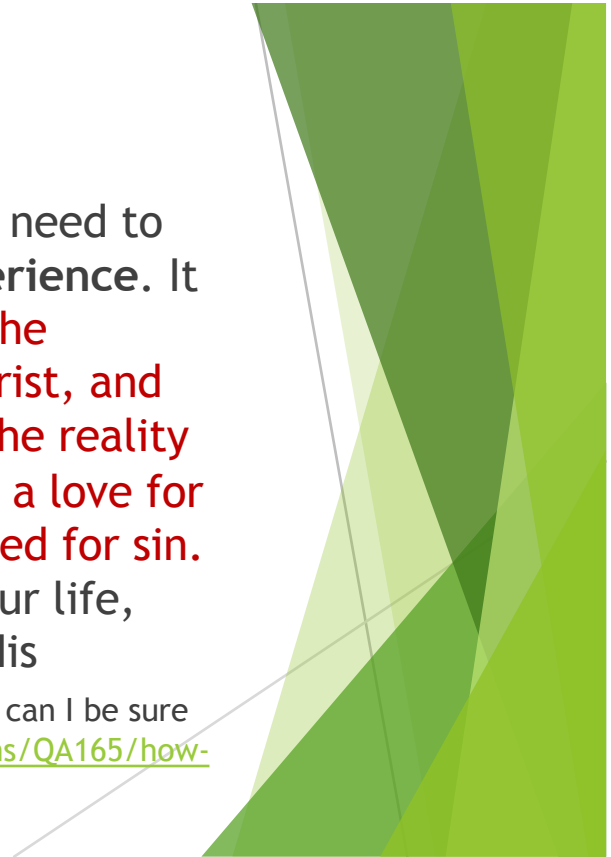
- ▶ Fruitbearing is demanded by virtue of the believer's union with Christ.
- ▶ “The key is to realize that in the Gospel of John there are *believers* who are not true believers (2:23). And there are *disciples* who are not true disciples (6:66). And there is the chosen twelve, and one of them is a devil (6:70), and Jesus knew it from the beginning when he chose him (6:64). And in the same way there are branches who are not true branches. They are “in me,” but not truly “in me.” (John Piper, “Glorifying God by Bearing Fruit in Union With Christ, 2014 Desiring God Conference, viewed at <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/glorifying-god-by-bearing-fruit-in-union-with-christ>)

Fruit: Necessary

- ▶ The same thing is true of the word “disciple.” In [John 6:66](#), John writes, “After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him” ([John 6:66](#)). They had been a kind of *disciple*, and kind of *believer*. But they had fallen away. So Jesus says, “If you abide in my word, you are *truly* my disciples” (8:31). There are disciples and there are “true disciples.” There are believers, and there are “true believers.” There are branches and true branches. - Piper

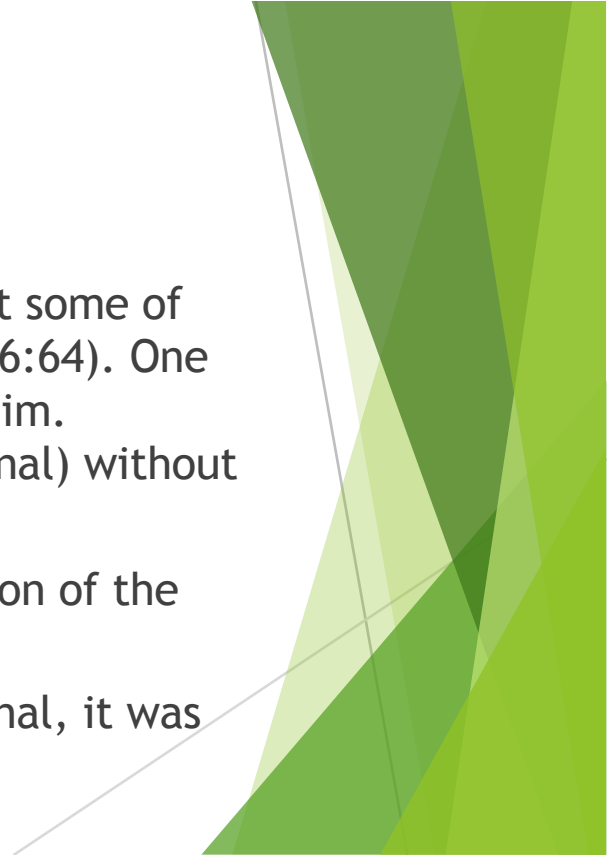
Fruit: Necessary

- ▶ “...one’s assurance of salvation does not need to be based on a past decision or an experience. It should rest first of all on one’s faith in the objective truth of God’s Word, Jesus Christ, and the gospel. Secondly, it should rest on the reality of a changed life marked by obedience, a love for Christ and His righteousness, and a hatred for sin. Take heart if these things are true in your life, and trust God to continue to work out His salvation in your life.” (John MacArthur, “How can I be sure of my salvation?” <https://www.gty.org/library/questions/QA165/how-can-i-be-sure-of-my-salvation>)



Fruit: Possible

- ▶ The problem: Jesus acknowledged that some of these disciples were not believers (Jn 6:64). One could follow after Him and not be in Him. Likewise, one could be in Him (positional) without abiding in Him (practical).
- ▶ Hence the command, and the expression of the need .
- ▶ The condition for fruit was not positional, it was practical.



Fruit: Possible

- ▶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. Gal 5:16.
- ▶ But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.** Gal 5:22-25.

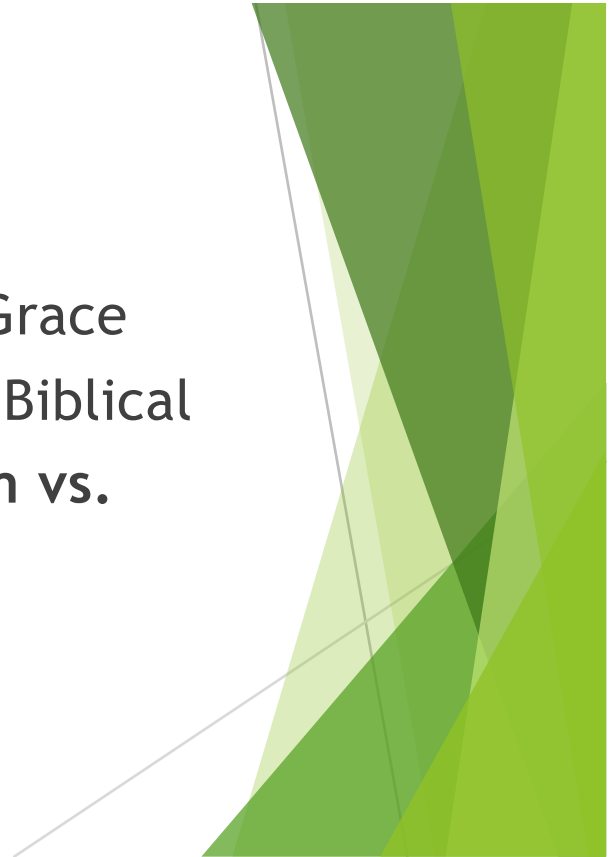
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3 Implications

- ▶ For Evangelism: Lordship vs. Grace
- ▶ For Counseling: Nouthetic vs. Biblical
- ▶ For Discipleship: Behaviorism vs. Spiritual Growth





▶ “What we do to another man and *how* we do it is tightly bound up in what we believe about that man.”



Jay Adams, *The Christian Counselor's Manual* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1973), 71-72.

9 Characteristics of a Biblical View Of Discipleship


- ▶ #1 Views the Law as a tutor to lead us to Christ, not as our moral standard. Gal 3:23-25
- ▶ #2 Recognizes eternal security, rather than perseverance. Jn 6:47, Rom 8:1, Eph 1:13-14
- ▶ #3 Is assured of salvation based on the knowledge that His Spirit is within us, not based on performance: The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 Jn 3:24

9 Characteristics of a Biblical View Of Discipleship

- ▶ #4 Acknowledges two natures, and resulting battle within. Rom 7:14-25, 1 Cor 2:14-3:3
- ▶ #5 Recognizes the real distinction between how one is spiritual vs. fleshly
- ▶ #6 Is focused, therefore, on walking in the Spirit (Gal 5), being filled with the Spirit (Eph 5), not simply on behavior control.

9 Characteristics of a Biblical View Of Discipleship

- ▶ #7 Expects fruit, but recognizes it does not determine identity. - 1 Jn 4:13
- ▶ #8 Seeks His fruitbearing in us, so that we walk as He desires: **Being spiritual (walking in the Spirit) and being mature (being habitually spiritually focused)**. Jn 15:1-11, Gal 5:22ff
- ▶ #9 Understands that spirituality and maturity are motivated *from* our position, not in order to protect our position. 1 Pet 1:3-5, 13-16.



▶ “What we do to another man and *how* we do it is tightly bound up in what we believe about that man.”



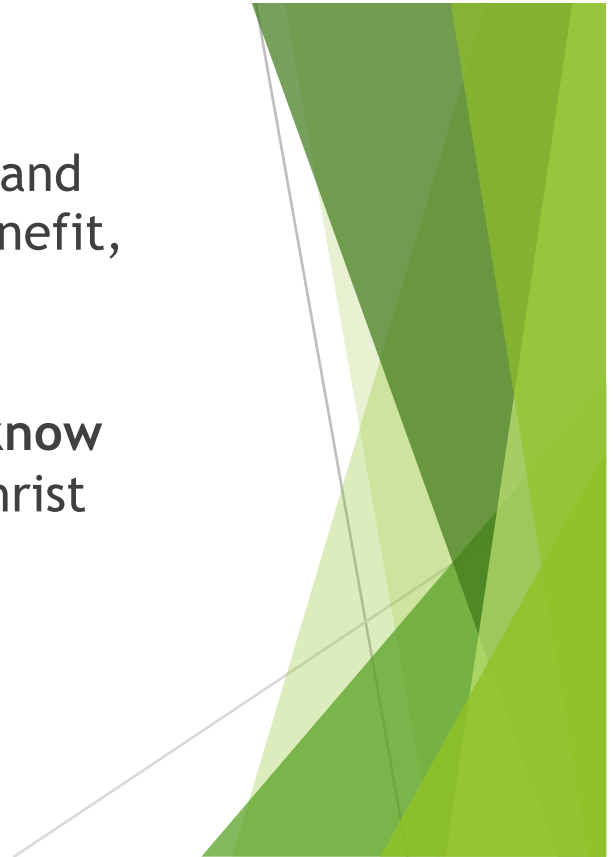
Jay Adams, *The Christian Counselor's Manual* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1973), 71-72.

The Goal (Telos) of Discipleship

- ▶ Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to **maturity**, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. And this we will do, if God permits. Heb 6:13.
- ▶ Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be **mature**. 1 Cor 14:20
- ▶ ...until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a **mature** man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ*...Eph 4:13-15

The Goal (Telos) of Discipleship

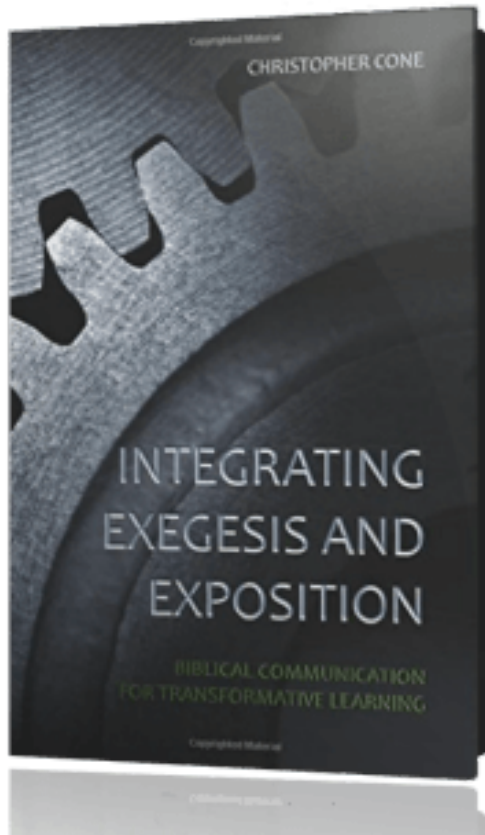
- ▶ But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, **resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.** Rom 6:22.
- ▶ This is **eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.** Jn 17:3.





Practical Discipleship: A 36 Week Model

Christopher Cone Th.D, Ph.D, Ph.D
drcone.com
calvary.edu



- ▶ From Integrating Exegesis and Exposition, Chapter 25
- ▶ Presupposition: 2 Tim 3:16-17

Weeks 1-14: New Life in Christ

- ▶ Week 1
- ▶ The Gospel - Rom 1:16-17, 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 1 Cor 15:1-8, Is 6:3, 53:5-6, 64:6-7, Acts 16:31, Jn 3:16, Eph 2:8-10, Jn 17:3.
- ▶ The Importance of:
 - ▶ Bible Study - 2 Tim 3:16-17, 2:15, Ps 119, Col 3:16.
 - ▶ Prayer - Eph 6:18, 1 Thess 5:17.
 - ▶ Fellowship - 1 Cor 12:13-27, Heb 10:23-25.
- ▶ Week 2
- ▶ The Doctrine of the Trinity - Is 48:11, 12, 16, Eph 1:1-14, 2:18.

Weeks 1-14: New Life in Christ

- ▶ Week 3
- ▶ Basics of Salvation - Eph 2:8-10, 1 Pet 1:3-5.
 - ▶ Positional - Jn 3:16, 5:24, Col 1:13, Rom 8.
 - ▶ Redemption and Forgiveness - Rom 3:24, 1 Cor 1:30, Eph 1:7, Col 1:14.
 - ▶ Justification - Rom 3:20, 3:28, 4:25, 5:1, 5:9, 5:16-18, 8:1, 30, Gal 2:16, 3:11, Tit 3:7.
 - ▶ Regeneration - Jn 3:16, 17:3, 20:30-31, Rom 6:1-13, 2 Cor 5:17, Gal 2:20, Tit 3:5.

Weeks 1-14: New Life in Christ

▶ Week 4

- ▶ Reconciliation - Rom 5:1,11, 2 Cor 5:18-19, Eph 2:13-18, Col 1:22.
- ▶ Sanctification - Acts 26:18, 1 Cor 1:2, 30, Eph 5:25-26, Col 1:22, Heb 2:11, 10:10, 14.
- ▶ Baptism - Rom 6:4, 1 Cor 12:13, Gal 3:27, Eph 4:5, Col 2:12, Tit 3:5, 1 Pet 3:21.
- ▶ Sealing - 2 Cor 1:22, Eph 1:13, 4:30.

Weeks 1-14: New Life in Christ

▶ Week 5

▶ Sonship - Jn 1:12, Rom 8:15, Gal 3:26, 4:5-6, Eph 1:5.

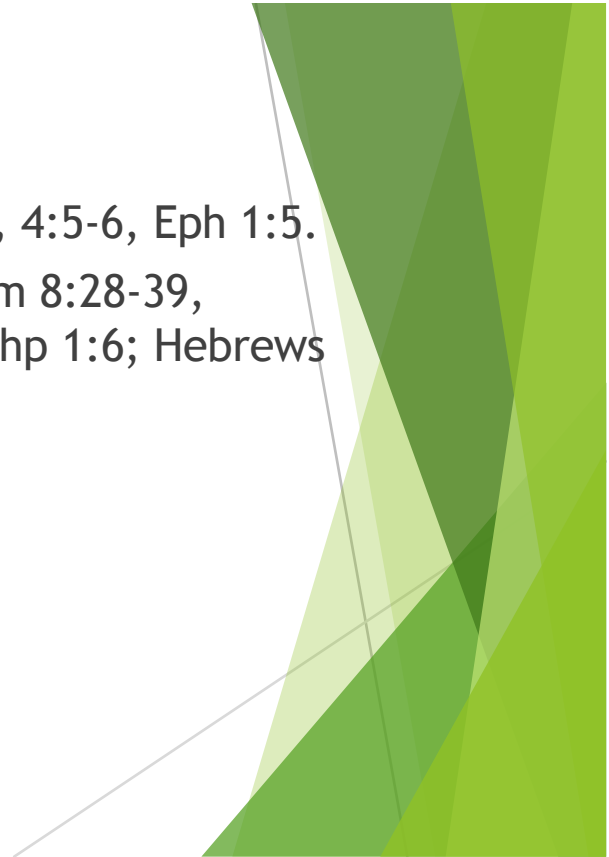
▶ Security - Jn 1:12, 3:16, 10:28-30, Rom 8:28-39, 11:29, Gal 3:29, Eph 1:1-14, 2:8-10, Php 1:6; Hebrews 13:5, 1 Pet 1:3-5, 1 Jn 3:1-2, 5:11-12.

▶ Spiritual Blessing - Eph 1:3.

▶ Week 6

▶ Practical, Progressive Salvation

▶ Purpose - Jn 17:3.



Weeks 1-14: New Life in Christ

▶ Week 7

▶ Sanctification - Rom 12:1-2, Eph 2:10, 2 Pet 3:18.

▶ Week 8

▶ Assurance - Jn 20:30-31, 1 Jn 2:3, 3:24, 4:13-15, 5:13.

▶ Week 9

▶ Children - Eph 5:1, 1 Jn 3:10, Prov 3:11-12.

▶ Week 10

▶ Subject to the Effects of Sin - Rom 7:14-25, 1 Cor 3:1-3, 5:5, 10:12, Eph 2:1-3, 1 Jn 1:8.

Weeks 1-14: New Life in Christ

▶ Week 11

- ▶ Fruitbearing - Mt 3:8, Jn 15, Rom 7:4, Gal 5:22, Eph 5:9, Php 1:11, Col 1:10.

▶ Week 12

- ▶ Ultimate - Free from the penalty, power, presence, and effects of sin.

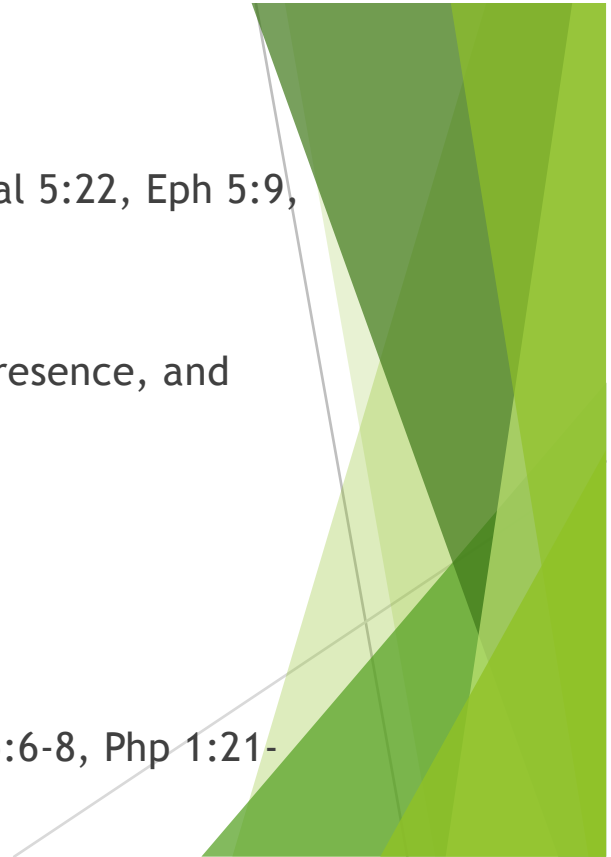
- ▶ Christlikeness - Rom 8:28-30, 1 Jn 3:2.

▶ Week 13

- ▶ Glorification - Rom 8:28-30, Col 3:3-4.

▶ Week 14

- ▶ At Home With The Lord - Jn 14:1-3, 2 Cor 5:6-8, Php 1:21-26.



Weeks 15-18: Walking in the Spirit

- ▶ Week 15
- ▶ Personal Bible Study: Being Filled With the Spirit - Eph 5:18, 2 Tim 3:16-17, 1 Pet 2:2.
 - ▶ Hearing - Rom 10:17, Gal 3:2-5.
 - ▶ Reading - 2 Cor 1:13, Eph 3:4, Col 4:16, 1 Thess 5:27.
 - ▶ Studying - Acts 17:10-11, 2 Tim 2:15.
 - ▶ Memorizing - Ps 119:9-11.
 - ▶ Considering - 2 Tim 2:7, Heb 3:1.
 - ▶ Reminding - 2 Pet 1:13.

Weeks 15-18: Walking in the Spirit

▶ Week 16

▶ Prayer - Mt 5:44, 6:5-6, 6:9-13, Rom 12:12, Eph 6:18, Php 4:6, Col 4:2, 1 Thess 5:17, James 5:13, 16, 1 Pet 3:12, 4:7.

▶ Week 17

▶ Fellowship With Believers - Acts 2:42, Heb 10:25.

▶ Purposes For Assembling Together - 1 Cor 14:12, Eph 3:21, 4:11-12, 1 Tim 2:8, 4:12.

▶ Role in the Church - Rom 12:4-8, 1 Cor 12, 1 Pet 4:10-11.

▶ Week 18

▶ Evangelism - Mt 28:19, 2 Cor 5:20-21, Rom 10:1, 13-15, 2 Tim 4:2.

Weeks 19-25: Developing Christian Character

- ▶ Week 19
- ▶ Lordship of Christ: Proper Perspective of God and Man - Rom 6:23, 1 Cor 15:57, Php 2:10.
- ▶ Week 20
- ▶ The Cost of Discipleship - Lk 14:26-27, 2 Tim 2:3-6, 3:12.
- ▶ Week 21
- ▶ Understanding God's Will - Rom 12:2, Eph 5:17, 1 Thess 4:13.
- ▶ Week 22
- ▶ Stewardship.
 - ▶ Spiritual Gifts - Rom 12:1-8, 1 Cor 12, 1 Pet 4:10-11.

Weeks 19-25: Developing Christian Character

- ▶ Week 23
- ▶ Physical Gifts
 - ▶ OT Giving (tithing) - Num 18:24.
 - ▶ Church Age Giving - 2 Cor 9:7-8, James 2:14-17, 1 Jn 3:17, 1 Cor 9:23, 10:31.
- ▶ Week 24
- ▶ Living as a Servant - Gal 5:13, Eph 5:21, Php 2:2-4.
- ▶ Week 25
- ▶ Accountability - 1 Thess 5:11, James 5:16.
- ▶ Forgiveness - Mt 6:12-1, 18:21-35, 2 Cor 2:7, Eph 4:32

Weeks 26-27: Developing Christian Hope

- ▶ Week 26
- ▶ Prophetic Implications - Dan 9, Mt 24, Jn 14:1-3, Rom 9-11, 1 Thess 4:13-18, Rev 19, 20.
- ▶ Week 27
- ▶ Handling Death - 1 Thess 4:13-18, 1 Cor 3:10-15, 15:50-58, 2 Cor 5:6-9, Heb 9:27.

Weeks 28-36: Developing Christian Maturity

- ▶ Week 28
- ▶ The Four Kinds of People - 1 Cor 2:14-15, 3:1 (14:20), Gal 5:22-24.
- ▶ Week 29
- ▶ Walking in Love - Jn 13:34-35, Rom 12:10, 13:8, Eph 4:2, 1 Thess 3:12, 1 Pet 1:22, 4:8, 1 Jn 3:11, 23, 4:7, 11.
- ▶ Week 30
- ▶ Walking in Purity: Warfare of the Believer (Dealing with Testing and Temptation)
 - ▶ Opponents: the World, the Devil, and the Flesh - Eph 2:1-3.

Weeks 28-36: Developing Christian Maturity

▶ Week 31

▶ Defense: 1 Cor 10:12-13, Eph 6:10-18, 2 Tim 2:22.

▶ Week 32

▶ Forgiveness - Eph 1:7, 1 Jn 1:9.

▶ Week 33

▶ Discipline - Prov 3:12, Heb 12:6-13.

Weeks 28-36: Developing Christian Maturity

- ▶ Week 34
 - ▶ Growth and Victory - Eph 4:15, 1 Pet 2:2, 2 Pet 3:18, 1 Jn 5:4.
- ▶ Week 35
 - ▶ Walking in Integrity - Eph 4:15, 24-25.
- ▶ Week 36
 - ▶ Discipling Others - Mt 28:19, 1 Cor 4:15-16, 2 Tim 2:2, Tit 2:2, Heb 10:24

Practical Impact for Discipleship

- ▶ At least 28 out of 58 major discipleship topics are directly impacted by the 9 Characteristics.
- ▶ In short: if we don't have the right understanding of the 4 distinctions...
 - ▶ Role of Law: Basis vs. Tutor
 - ▶ Perseverance of Saints vs. Eternal Security
 - ▶ One Nature vs. Two Natures
 - ▶ Fruit: Necessary vs. Possible
- ▶ ...then our discipleship won't be based on the right (9) Characteristics, and we will get *half* of the major issues in discipling *wrong*. ***We have to do better than that.***