

Principles on Personal Responsibility
Chapter 20, pp 275-285

Commitment to personal responsibility is required to proceed in the application of scriptures

Rule Six - In those areas of life not addressed by the Scriptures, we must develop personal convictions to govern our behavior.

Believers are free to do whatever the Bible does not _____. Christians have considerable freedom

Why do you think the Bible has relatively few prohibitions compared to non-Biblical societies?

The _____ of a specific prohibition does not mean the activity is helpful or without harm.

What is the principle of 1 Corinthians 10:23 and how does that apply in your life?

If we don't establish limits in areas other than those mentioned in the Bible, we run the _____ of being emotionally yoked with the world pg 277

This would be a problem in societies strongly influenced by the _____ (cultural Christianity), for non-Christian societies usually walk contrary to the scriptures even when the wisdom of a prohibition is self-evident

How have you seen professing Christians fall into the trap of living by the standards of society instead of standards of godliness? How have you seen claims of Christian liberty used to justify licentiousness?

Note on page 278 - We only have small portions of what was revealed.

Would it have been wrong for Daniel to stop his particular practices of prayer - Daniel 6:10?

Explain Romans 14:23 & why the same action can be sinful for one Christian but not others?

We err when we allow freedom to become _____.

MY OWN COROLLARY: THE LACK OF A _____ PROHIBITION DOES NOT GIVE FREEDOM TO VIOLATE EITHER THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE PROHIBITION NOR TO ACT CONTRARY TO SPECIFIC AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES PROSCRIBED BY THE SCRIPTURES.

Rule Seven - When applying the Scriptures, we must make a distinction between the positive and negative commands

Negative commands tend to be somewhat more _____ / more precise than positive commands

Colossians 3:5-17

What is the difference between a negative and a positive command? ____

Negative commands - putting to death, laying aside the motives & deeds of the _____ man

Positive commands - putting on motives and deeds of the _____ man

Why are negative commands easier to keep than positive ones?

It is easy to be _____ about a clear & specific prohibiting a particular action. Evaluation of how well you are doing in carrying out a general positive command is subjective

(Note: the failure to keep a positive general command can be objective. Keeping proscribed actions can also be objective)

What is the danger of applying objective standards to positive commands?

It can reduce them to a list of specifics which becomes the basis of self-righteous _____

Rule Eight - Each person is individually responsible for applying the Scriptures to his or her own life.

What role does a community have in helping a person live in godliness?

The Christian community has a responsibility to help those within it to _____ with Christ in holiness - Matthew 28:19-20; Hebrews 3:13; 2 Timothy 4:2 - and to even correct & discipline those that do not - Matthew 18:15-19

Can community standards of conduct absolve a person from breaking God's commands?

Failure to make application of God's commands is a _____ matter. 2 Corinthians 5:10 - each Christian will appear individually before the judgment seat of Christ.

Revelation 20:12 - every non-Christian will be judged according to their own deeds.

Rule Nine - In all things, we must be teachable. We must be willing to admit that we are wrong, change direction, and appear inconsistent.

What is the role of pride in a person refusing to admit they are wrong or in them blaming something or someone else for what they did? ____

Pride blocks a person from _____ failure and being wrong.

What is the role of humility in being teachable, seeking forgiveness and changing direction?

Humility demands that we _____ when we find out we were wrong. The goal of a Christian is to become like Christ and so he should welcome admonishment toward that end.

Rule Ten - The acknowledgment of wrong must be followed by restitution when it is within our power

Our society looks for ways to _____ responsibility for actions and their consequences .

Restitution is to _____ or compensate for the loss you have caused someone else

Restitution for losses you have caused is necessary as a matter of _____ and righteousness - Exodus 22, etc. It is fruit in keeping with repentance - Matthew 3:8

What is the difference and the relationship between confession and restitution?

Confession admits fault by _____ with God and His standards. Restitution arises out of confession as the effort to compensate in some tangible way for the damage done

What is the source of feelings of guilt? What can be done to resolve those feelings?

Guilt is a God given mechanism that pricks the _____ that we have done something wrong. The cure for guilt is truth and confession.

What are some possible things a Christian can do if they find it is impossible to make restitution to an individual they have wronged?

Make restitution to an _____ that would be of similar nature or have been appreciated by the one that was harmed.