

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.