

Convictions, Perspective, Priorities

Convictions: Shapes Perspective, By which we set our
What you believe worldview Priorities of life

Faith: *Rm1:5;10:17* **Hope:** *Ps39:7* **Love:** *John14:15,21,23,24*
Believing / Seeing Taking hold/living Obeying
the Invisible out the invisible the invisible
Hebrews 11:1,6 *Hebrews 6:17 – 20* **Example of Christ** *John 14:31*
A. The exact same events yielded completely different reactions, why?
B. You are only as strong as your weakest Conviction (*Hosea 4:6; Romans 10:2*)

I. Convictions (Faith: Believing the Invisible)

Proverbs 23:7; Hebrews 11:1; Isaiah 5:13; I Peter 1:8

(What are the basic Convictions? What is worth taking a stand?)

A. The Nature of God

1. **Three** - Matthew 28:19
2. Yet **One** -
Deuteronomy 6:4
3. **Sovereign** -
a. Job 42:2
b. Psalm 103:19
c. Isaiah 8:12 & 13
4. Yet **Loving Father**
a. Psalm 63:3
b. Galatians 4:4 – 7
5. The key to stability
a. In salvation
b. In discipleship

B. The Sufficiency of Christ

1. *Acts 4:12* - Salvation
2. *Ephesians 1:3* – Spiritual blessing
3. *II Peter 1:3* – Life and godliness
4. *Colossians 2:9* – Fullness of the Godhead
5. There exists no set of second-class Christians who “only have Jesus”

Supra-spiritual Man

Eph.1:13,14;2:4-6

?

Spiritual Man



Eph.2:1,2

Birth ☞ Carnal Man

6. *Hebrews 10:18; Isaiah 53:11* - After Christ, there exists no act no sacrifice which is needed to satisfy the just demands of God.
7. *I John 2:1 & 2* – The Doctrine of Propitiation (total satisfaction) vs. Atonement (satisfaction for past actions). Nothing you do will make God love you more. Nothing you do will make God love you less.

C. The Authority, Finality and Sufficiency of God's Word

1. Its Divine Attributes

- a. II Timothy 3:16 / II Peter 1:20 & 21 – **Inspired**
- b. Psalm 19:7 – 10; II Timothy 3:15; II Peter 2:21 - **Inerrant**
- c. I Peter 1:24 & 25 - **Eternal**
- d. Hebrews 4:12 – **Dynamic; Judges – the individual**
- e. Acts 17:11 – **Judges All teachings**
- f. Ephesians 6:17 – **Sword of the Spirit**
- g. John 17:17 - **Sanctifies**
- h. I Peter 1:23 – **Agent of salvation**
- i. I Timothy 4:6 – **Feeds us spiritually**
- j. I Thessalonians 2:13 – **The final authority**
- k. I Corinthians 4:6; Revelation 22:17 & 18 - **Complete**

2. Its Correct Use

- a. All experience is subject to the Word of God **II Cor 5:7; Heb 4:12** Two axioms
If we experience “Yes” and God’s Word says “No” then we hold “No” to be true.
If we experience “No” and God’s Word says “Yes” then we hold “Yes” to be true.
- b. Five Questions:
 - 1.) **New Covenant** (Hebrews 8:6, 7, 13; 9:15)
vs. **Old Covenant** (Hebrews 9:1 – 7, 16 – 22; Matthew 5:17; Luke 24:27, 44)
 - a.) **Example: Old in New Luke and Zacharias – Luke 1:8-10**
 - b.) **Example: Old in New Luke and Holy Spirit – Luke 11:13**
 - c.) **Example: Old in Old Psalm 51:11**
 - d.) **Example: New in Old Isaiah 53:6, 11**
 - 2.) **Doctrine (I Timothy 4:6; Titus 1:9; 2:1, 7, 10)**
vs. **Historical Revelation** (I Corinthians 10:11; Luke 1:1 – 4)
 - 3.) **Definition**
 - a. Words have meaning. Without introduction nor explanation God revealed himself through words, through the written word.
 - b. Interpretation is subject to definition
 - 4.) **Revealed vs. Hidden** (Deuteronomy 29:29)
 - a.) Higher (Isaiah 55:8 & 9)
Example: Prophecy (II Peter 1:19 – 21; Example: Jeremiah 31:15 = Matthew 4:12 – 16)
Example: Parable (Matthew 13:13 – 15 & 18) Conventional wisdom:
Parables are meant to illustrate truth; Truth – they are meant to hide truth.
 - b.) Secret (Deuteronomy. 29:29; Acts 1:6 & 7; I Corinthians 2:11; John 21:25) “The Bible doesn’t say” single hardest statement of teacher
 - 5.) **Application:** Joshua 1:8; Ezra 7:10

D. The Imminent Return of Christ – Philippians 4:5 (Ch/MnSt.P)

1. Rapture (Hebrews 9:28; Revelations 1:3; 22: 6, 7, 10, 12, 20)
2. Death (James 4:13 – 16 Charles Casebolt letter; Job 14:5; Luke 23:43)

E. The Personal Responsibility of the Disciple –

(Romans 14:12 No authority or relationship can free us.)

1. **Universal priesthood** of the believer (I Peter 2:5 & 9)
2. **Universal gifting** of the believer (Romans 12:6; I Corinthians 12:7; I Peter 4:10)
3. **Universal call to be a witness** for Christ (Acts 1:8; Matthew 4:19)
4. **Universal call to the discipling ministry** (Matthew 28:19 & 20)
5. **Universal Response to the Word of God** (Hebrews 4:12)
6. **Universal Response to earthly authority and leadership**
 - a. **Government** Romans 13:1

- b. **Husbands** - Ephesians 5:22-25
- c. **Parents** - Ephesians 6:1-4
- d. **Employers** - Ephesians 6:5, Colossians 3:23 & 24
- e. **Spiritual authority** - Hebrews 13:17
- f. **All earthly authority is subject to the Word of God**
Hebrews 4:12; Acts 17:11

II. Perspective – Hope: Living out the invisible

A. Positive: Hebrews 6:17 – 20; Psalm 39:7

1. Where as by faith we see the invisible, by hope we laid hold of the invisible, we strike out, accepting invisible realities as more real and determining than the visible.

B. Negative: Proverbs 22:13; 26:13

1. Contrastingly the man without hope lives in fear of those things which his wrong convictions see, even though they do not exist.
2. ISA 8:12 "You are not to say, 'It is a conspiracy!' In regard to all that this people call a conspiracy, And you are not to fear what they fear or be in dread of it."
 - a. Ministry postponement – College – Retirement
 - b. “Children of pagans are the cannon fodder of modern miss. Movement” – C.C.

C. Illustrated in Hebrew’s hall of heroes

1. Hebrews 11:1 & 2
2. Hebrews 11: 6
3. Moses - Hebrews 11:24 - 29

Reward ⇐GOD⇒Death Angel



By faith Moses, when he had grown up...

4. Double Sided Coin of Faith – Hebrews 11:32 - 40
 - a. Peace and Blessing
 - b. Turmoil and Depravation

D. Existential Methodology: Hebrews 12:11“God wants me to be happy doesn’t He?”

Existential Methodology

	A	B	C	D
Peace				
Affluence				
	A	B	C	D
His Kingdom				
His Righteousness				

III. Priorities – Love: Obeying the invisible

A. Absolute Priorities – Deuteronomy 5:7; Matthew 6:33; Luke 10:41, 42

B. Contextual Priorities – daily disciplines: QT; Wife; Children; Career

C. How they work together (stair step illustration).

D. Diagnostic Tools

1. Bridge
2. Wheel
3. Hand (Word and Prayer)

E. A Word of Caution Concerning Knowledge - James 4:17

1. **Pride** - I Corinthians 8:1
2. **Self-control** II Peter 1:5 & 6
3. **Motives** I Corinthians 4:3 – 5
4. **Weariness** Ecclesiastes 12:12

The Traditional Wheel

Introduction: Acts 2:41 & 42 – The roots of Discipleship as defined by the Wheel

A. Key Book - Philippians

B. The Wheel speaks to experiencing the power of Christ in our daily lives

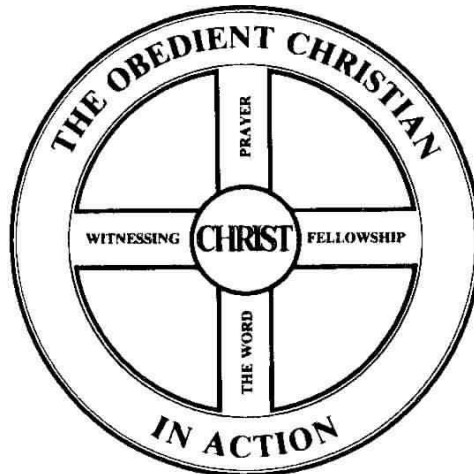
1. Erroneous views of the Wheel
 - a. God the Father and God the Holy Spirit are indifferent to our views concerning God the Son – Jesus Christ.
 - b. Ships Wheel – the wheel as a display, loss of the spiritual principles in favor of cutesy factor
 - c. Table – The wheel apart from Christ the Center, loss of the doctrines of Salvation and Lordship so as not to offend Catholics, Pentecostals and Charismatics. The Wheel was never meant to be a tool for the propagation of disciplines that even Mormon's or Jehovah's Witnesses would be comfortable.)
2. Wagon wheel – hub and rim; the spokes are for power transference
3. Addressed two frustrations that dogged me as young believer
 - a. Being exhorted to do intangibles – crucify the flesh, walk in the spirit, abide in Christ
 - b. Being asked to do things without being told how to do them

C. The Wheel as a diagnostic tool

1. What diagnostic tools are common in your life?

PRAYER
John 15:7
Philippians 4:6 & 7

WITNESSING
Matthew 4:19
Romans 1:16



FELLOWSHIP
Matthew 18:20
Hebrews 10:24 & 25

WORD
Joshua 1:8
II Timothy 3:16

CHRIST THE CENTER – The Wheel was never meant to exist apart from the doctrines of Salvation and Lordship. It is not generic “spiritual power” through mystical disciplines but the Lordship of Christ that the Wheel teaches: II Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20 (Power Takeoff Unit on tractor gear – ratio connection for add on equipment – bailer, grass cutter, rake, if stripped out then no power transfer.

THE OBEDIENT DISCIPLE IN ACTION – The Wheel was never meant to be stand alone spiritual disciplines apart from the concerted and purposeful submission to and obedience to Christ John 14:15, 21, 23, 24; Romans 12:1

The Wheel - Emphasizing How Each Spoke Is Spending Time With God, A Form Of Spiritual Intake...

(A wheel spins, so no two spokes are vertical)

A. The Word

I Timothy 4:6
Hebrews 4:12

B. Prayer

Philippians 4:6,7
John 15:7
Hebrews 4:16

C. Fellowship

I Corinthians 12:12 & 13
Ephesians 1:22 & 23

D. Witnessing

Matthew 4:19; Matthew 28:20
II Corinthians 5:20; I Corinthians 3:9
Revelation 3:20