

Balance

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I. Introduction.

A. Balance is a necessity.

B. If God gives us something, we ought to keep it in balance.

II. Spiritually you want to remain balanced.

A. Remain balanced in your doctrine.

1. Differences usually start with overemphasis and then results in under-emphasis.
2. Only by pride comes contention.
3. We have the same wonderful Lord.

B. Be balanced in the Word.

1. We obey God rather than man. (Galatians 1:10, Acts 5:29, Daniel 6:10)
2. We should tenaciously obey God in relationship to our personal relationship to Him.
3. There are other verses that we should obey men. (2 Corinthians 8:21, 1 Thessalonians 5, Matthew 17:27)
 - a. Sometimes we have certain liberties that we are to be careful of being a stumbling block to others.
 - b. Throw out things that are stumbling blocks so that you can please men.
 - c. Jesus did not stand for his right in order not to offend the people on certain things.
4. Memorize verses that complement each other.
 - a. For instance, you can ask God for assistance in the trades and for the Word. (Exodus 31:35, Acts 6:4)
 - b. Try to study the balancing truths.
5. Look askance upon new secret discoveries. (Ephesians 4:13, 2 Peter 1:20)
 - a. Truth does not change.
 - b. The New Testament teaches the importance of Jesus' teaching and the Old Testament. (Matthew 28:19-20)

c. There are works and grace in salvation. (Ephesians 2:8-10, Philippians 2:12, James 2:21, Titus 3:5)

C. Be balanced on discipline.

1. There is a balance between discipline and love.
2. One is to speak the truth in love.
3. Are you called to the mission field or to people? (Acts 1:8)
4. Jesus increased in godly wisdom and worldly wisdom. (Luke 2:52)
5. Discipline without desire leads to discouragement.

Application questions

1. How is one to be balanced in doctrine?

2. How can one be balanced in practice?

3. What areas of your life could use some more balance? How will you achieve this? Explain.
