

“Accountabilities of a Mature Christian”

Ralph Arnold, Pastor

TEXT: Romans 14:10-12 “...everyone... shall give account of himself to God.”

*To be able to perform is ability.
*Ability produces accountability, therefore;
*All decisions of the mind reveal the ability to think.
*All actions of the body reveal various levels of ability.
*I Cor. 4:2 “...it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.”
*Luke 12:48 “...whomsoever much is given, ...much required;”
*Luke 16:2 “...give an account of thy stewardship;”

- I. Accountable to hear the Word of God**
Mark 4:21-24,33 “...as they were able to hear it”
Heb. 5:11-14 “...ye are dull of hearing”
- II. Accountable to see the spiritual perspective of the Word of God**
Eph. 1:18 “...eyes of your understanding being enlightened;”
I Cor. 2:9-10,13 “...comparing spiritual things with spiritual”
- III. Accountable to control yourself by the Word of God**
The mind Rom. 12:1-2
The body I Cor. 9:27, James 3 (tongue)
- IV. Accountable to remember truths of the Word of God**
(Develop the ability to remember)
II Peter 1:15 “...have these things always in remembrance”
John 14:26 “...bring all things to your remembrance”
- V. Accountable to stand according to the Word of God**
I Cor. 16:13 “...stand fast in the faith,”
Galatians 5:1 “...stand fast, therefore in the liberty”
Ephesians 6:11,13,14 “...having done all, to stand.”
- VI. Accountable to admonish according to the Word of God**
(Admonish does not mean to nag, judge in order to put down, or scorn.)
Rom. 15:14 “...able to admonish one another” (means that while you may admonish someone else, someone else may admonish you.) *Learn to receive as well as you give.*
- VII. Accountable to teach according to the Word of God**
II Tim. 2:2,15,21 “...able to teach others also”

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“CORRECT DECISIONS IN A CROOKED WORLD”

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Living by faith is believing that your choices are within the realm of the will of God. *Ralph Arnold* Rom. 14:22-23, “...for whatsoever is not of faith is sin”

Since no-one can make all of your decisions for you, it is imperative that you learn how to make the right ones for yourself. Here are **some Biblical Principles** I believe are taught in the Word of God that will help you **discern** right from wrong.

1. Will it bring **Glory** to the Lord?
1 Corinthians 10:31, Colossians 3:17, 23-25
2. Will it be a **stumbling block** to the **lost** or to the **saved**?
1 Corinthians 8:9, Romans 14:13, 21, 1 Peter 2:12-16
3. Will it have the **appearance** of evil?
1 Thessalonians 5:22
4. Will it be a **weight**?
Hebrews 12:1-2
5. Will it be a **provision** for the flesh?
Romans 13:14
6. Will it **grieve** the Holy Spirit?
Ephesians 4:30, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
7. Will it eventually **cause you shame**?
1 John 2:28
8. Will it **prick our hearts**, whether it is right or wrong?
1 John 3:20, Romans 14:22-23

Remember to ask yourself:

Did I really pray about it?
Do I really want God’s will?
Do I really believe this decision to be right?

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“Established According to the Gospel”

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Introduction: The teaching of the ‘Gospel’ is the foundation on which we stand to defeat Humanism.

TEXT: Rom. 16:25

1. What is Humanism? It’s godless teaching is as follows:

- a. **Evolution:** Man gradually emerged by chance from lower forms of life over millions of years. (This is the religion of atheists.)
- b. **Self-Authority:** (Individual Autonomy) Man is his own authority and is not accountable to any higher power. This ‘self-sufficiency’ generates self-interest, self-gratification, self-indulgence and self-righteousness. (No God, No Authority, No Order, = power makes right)
- c. **Situation Ethics:** There are no absolute rules by which to live. Thus, man is the final authority for his actions; based on existing circumstances.
- d. **Distorted Realism:** All should be exposed to diverse ‘realistic’ viewpoints, including emphasis on profanity, immorality, and perversions as acceptable modes of ‘self-expression.’ In practice, this includes children of any age.
- e. **Sexual Permissiveness:** All forms of sexual expression are acceptable. Public sex education is considered necessary provided it is taught without Judeo-Christian morals.
- f. **Anti-Biblical Bias:** Man created God out of his own experiences.
- g. **Anti-Free Enterprise:** Government ownership or control of the economy would replace private ownership of property and the free market economy. This economy ‘collectivism’ is known as ‘Big Brother Government,’ (CRADLE-TO-THE-GRAVE- WELFARE, or outright socialism.)
- h. **One World Government:** “Global citizenship” should replace national self-determination.
- i. **Death Education:** There is no hope of existence beyond the grave. No heaven, No hell. Euthanasia and suicide are endorsed.

The Jan/Feb. 1983 Humanist magazine, the mouthpiece of the American Humanist Association states: “...the battle for mankind’s future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers who correctly perceive their role as the proselytizer of a new faith- a religion of humanity...utilizing a classroom instead of a pulpit to convey humanist values in whatever subject they teach...”

2. The Conflict **Isaiah 55:7-8**

- a. All the truths of God are embodied in the term (**CHRIST**-ianity).
- b. All the philosophies of man are embodied in the term (**HUMAN**-ism).
The Lord’s ways are not your ways.
The Lord’s thoughts are not your thoughts.

Although the name ‘Humanism’ was not used in Christ’s day, the philosophies of man and his sins were the same. The vaccine given to his apostles to give to every man, woman, boy, and girl was the gospel. You cannot fight humanism with humanism. Notice how the seven steps in presenting the gospel is the greatest weapon the Holy Spirit (thru the Christian) can use to stop and destroy the teaching of humanism.

3. The Seven Steps:

- a. “All have sinned” **Rom. 3:23**
 - i. An absolute statement
 - ii. Every individual
 - iii. Definite right and wrong
 - iv. Whatever sin is- we have done it.
- b. “Wages of sin is death” **Rom. 6:23**
 - i. An absolute statement
 - ii. Can’t sin and get away with it.
- c. “You must be perfect to go to heaven” **Rev. 21:27**
 - i. There is life after death
 - ii. There is a place after death
- d. “You cannot earn Eternal Life” **Eph. 2:8-9**
 - i. You are not self sufficient
 - ii. You need the Lord
- e. “Christ died for you” **II Cor. 5:21**
 - i. Puts a limitation on saviors-only one
 - ii. You are personally loved by God
- f. “Only believe” **John 3:16**
 - i. If this is the only requirement, then all others are false
 - ii. If believing brings salvation, it also brings Eternal Life
- g. “You can know you have Eternal Life” **I John 5:13**
 - i. KNOW- absolute
 - ii. YOU- every person who believes
 - iii. HAVE- present tense, right now
 - iv. ETERNAL LIFE- forever, and forever

Remember: All religions, outside of true Christianity, are results of various teachings of humanism.