

Whatever the circumstance, the believer must evaluate every situation as an event that has been in the divine decree since eternity past but has just arrived in time and intended specifically for him.

Since it was in the decree, its appearance in human history must have been considered for him and him only to resolve with the doctrine presently resident in his soul.

This circumstance requires the person to acknowledge, confront, evaluate, and resolve. The solution is to use the doctrine he knows to orient and adjust to it and resolve with the doctrine in his soul.

Happiness is an inner resource developed from maximum Bible doctrine resident in the soul and is so advanced in its grace orientation to the plan of God that all aspects of life are evaluated with regard to eternal rather than temporal implications. Consequently, happiness is the penultimate problem-solving device.

10. Occupation with Christ

Once a person enters into the sophisticated spiritual life of advanced doctrinal orientation, then his entire focus is centered around Jesus Christ.

This focus has to do with submission to senior-ranking authority regarding one's personal life and the obligations he is commissioned to fulfill.

The reason for remaining alive post-salvation is to maximize the freedom we enjoy as potential witnesses for the Prosecution in the Invisible War.

The mature believer recognizes that he is destined to play a part in resolving the cosmic war, but beyond that to serve his Lord and Savior for all eternity.

We acquire this orientation from the systematic institutions we encounter in normal life. We initially orient and adjust to parental authority, first to our father whose duty is to supervise the organized humility of the home. Our mother offers submission to that guidance by her orientation to the leadership of her husband.



As the child grows, other authorities enter into the equation including teachers in academia, experts in extracurricular activities such as coaches in sports and instructors in skills such as music, the arts, and rhetoric.

Each leader contributes to the gradual organization of the child's soul that ultimately produces an authority oriented individual.

To be a good leader, an individual must learn how to be a follower. Those who know more, teach those who know less. Humility and teachability facilitate the advance to becoming a great leader because of the humility to be a willing follower.

These areas of authority prepare the child to realize everyone has one ultimate authority to which he chooses to submit. Some decide to follow a personality that allows him to function under the authority of his sin nature while others orient to principles of establishment.

Once saved, the new believer is then tasked to orient to doctrine which requires him to grow in grace.

Unfortunately, others choose to operate primarily on human viewpoint.

The former's decision to grow in grace and pursue truth is the one whose advance will ultimately take him to the summum bonum of occupation with Christ.

Such a person advances to join the **πρόμαχοι** (*prómachoi*), front rankers in the Lord's phalanx in time and ultimately as a winner at the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ in eternity.

Occupation with Christ is clearly expressed in this expanded translation of:

1 Peter 1:7 The genuineness of your doctrinal inventory, being much more precious than gold, which is perishable, even though tested by fire for the purpose of approval, may be discovered to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

v. 8 and though you have never seen Him, you continue loving Him, with reference to Whom at the present time you continue not seeing Him, yet you keep on believing with sublime unalloyed happiness that is inexpressible and full of resplendent glory. (EXT)

When a believer advances to spiritual maturity he does so as a result of being tested for the purpose of approval. The development of a biblical inventory of ideas means renovation of thought has occurred that pleases God.

(End JAS3-98. See JAS3-99 for continuation of study at p. 441.)



Fourth Floor:

This level of the spiritual advance finds the believer functioning with **spiritual self-esteem**. Having learned the doctrines associated with the ten major problem-solving devices results in their application on an advanced level.

At his level of growth, the believer has developed a copacetic attitude regarding other people. **Problem-Solving Device #7** may be classified as the consistent application of the **Royal Law**.

This commandment, found only in James 2:8 but otherwise expressed over twenty times in Scripture, is defined by the term, “love your neighbor as yourself.”

We have taken both terms and expanded their meanings in the context of the integrity of God which is made up of His divine attributes of righteous, justice, and omniscience that encapsulate the love of God.

God’s knowledge is expressed by omniscience in that He knows all that is knowable. His righteousness refers to His complete perfection regarding things sacrosanct and thus referred to as absolute truth. His justice is the promoter and guardian of these standards.

Justice promotes, blesses, aggrandizes, and rewards the believer who applies righteous standards in his life. Justice also disciplines the violation of those standards.

Righteousness and justice combine to form the integrity of God whose combination defines the love of God.

The believer’s spiritual growth will ultimately take him to the point of understanding the obligations he has with regard to the Trinity and to all members of the human race.

The believer is able to acquire divine thought through Bible study. This information is designed to counsel him about making good decisions from a position of strength. His inventory of biblical ideas is retained in the stream of consciousness of his soul.

To know all that is knowable as is the case with the Trinity, the believer must develop his conscience as an in-soul police department that counsels him from resident doctrine.



He is commissioned to use the doctrine he knows to make decisions based on the counsel of his conscience. The more advanced he becomes biblically the more honorable become his decisions.

Doctrinal rationales enable him to discern what another person thinks, says, and does is the result of his inventory of ideas. Yet, may or may not have advanced him to the functional level of unconditional love for others.

What a sophomoric believer has in his soul may not have advanced to the level of unconditional love for others. He has not acquired so cannot apply the Royal Law.

The advanced believer has done so. He realizes that what other people think, say, and do comes under the heading of Their Business. They must be allowed to learn from their mistakes and allow doctrine to be the teacher, not himself.

Once a person recognizes that there are precious few people in this life over whom he has authority, then he is able to relax and allow others the option to keep growing in grace or not.

When on occasion, a believer is placed in authority over others, then he must use the Royal Law to guide and direct them.

When mistakes, failures, and errors occur, he is to guide and direct in a manner that will produce a positive outcome for the individual involved.

Once the problem with “other people” is resolved, then the Royal Law has fulfilled its obligation to utilize personal integrity toward others.

This is summarized by Moses and New Testament writers by the phrase to “love with personal integrity other people from the inventory of doctrinal standards available in your soul.”

This level of spiritual growth advances the believer to problem-solving device of **Personal Love for God**. The application of this level of spiritual growth draws from the personal relationship the believer has with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

