

Salvation: By Grace or By Works

It is apparent that the imperatives of command and prohibition are direct, one making a positive appeal while the other makes a negative one. There is no guarantee that there will be compliance with either.

In both the imperatives of entreaty and permission there is an increased expectancy of compliance due to the subject's faith in the integrity of those to whom he communicates. Again, there is no guarantee, but there is the assumption of there being a much greater probability of compliance. Whereas the imperatives of command and prohibition make a direct appeal to the volition, the imperatives of entreaty and permission make direct appeals to virtue. Whereas the first two uses make no assumptions, the final two do.

Therefore, with the imperatives of command and prohibition, it is not uncommon to find attached to them penalty or punishment clauses for noncompliance. In the case of the imperatives of entreaty and permission, it is very uncommon to find such clauses attached.

Therefore, it becomes apparent that the relationship between establishment authorities and their subordinates is virtue dependent. If the authority figure assumes that there is no virtue on the part of his subordinates, then his policies are issued as direct commands in either a positive or negative form.

Further, in order to ensure that compliance occurs, he attaches to his policies penalty or punishment clauses as deterrents against noncompliance. If on the other hand, the authority figure discerns that there is virtue and even integrity on the part of his subordinates, then his policies may be issued in the form of entreaty and permission.

Authority-oriented subordinates willingly comply not only out of respect for his authority but from reverence toward either establishment or God. Penalty or punishment clauses may be implied but it is not assumed that they will need to be employed. In fact, when there is noncompliance, it is assumed, there is a problem for which there is sure to be a reasonable explanation.

This brings us to the subject of imperative moods in relationship to enforced and genuine humility and establishment morality and integrity. Those in positions of establishment authority must assume that all mandates will not be obeyed by anyone. This means that all laws, policies, rules, regulations, and assignments must be issued as either a positive or negative command and accompanied by penalty or punishment clauses.