

Hebrews 12:8a: Analysis of Protasis; Reversion Recovery

Thus, we have a supposition used to illustrate the principle of Hebrews 12:7: “*If you are without discipline, then you are without a heavenly Father.*”

Righteousness is the principle of divine integrity while justice is the function of divine integrity. Whatever righteousness demands, justice executes. Without fail, divine integrity administers divine discipline to every believer who sins, resulting in some measure of pain and suffering.

Once you become aware that you are under discipline, your doctrinal orientation should immediately elicit thanksgiving for the implied blessing. If the Father has you under His discipline, then you are His son, and He is your heavenly Father. This not only serves as a motivation to endure and recover but is also an indication that you are a member of the Royal Family of God. This buffalos legalistic, High Calvinists who insist that the only way you can tell who's a believer is by their demonstration of divine good, or as they phrase it, “*We know them by their fruits.*”

But, by the same rationale, you should also know if a person is a believer by his pain and suffering. “*We know them by their bruises.*” You see, the believer can produce fruits outside those accomplished through the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 6:7 - Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

Galatians 6:8 - For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Holy Spirit shall from the Holy Spirit reap eternal life.

Hosea 8:7 - They sow the wind, and they reap the whirlwind.

So, in the same way that it is ridiculous to try and determine a person's salvation based on his good works, it is just as ludicrous to try and do so based on his pain and suffering.

However, just as the believer can know he is saved through faith alone in Christ alone, he can also know he is a child of God through the pain and suffering he experiences from divine discipline.

From Hebrews 12:7 this believer can be assured that the divine motivation for his discipline is unconditional love and its purpose is renewed potential for reward and blessing.

The potential is converted into a reality by the believer submitting to the recovery process:

1. Admit he is wrong: *metanoeo*, *repent*, i.e., change his mind about his behavior.

Revelation 2:21 - And so I gave her time in order that she might [*metanoeo*] change her mind, nevertheless, she did not desire to [*metanoeo*] change her mind about her fornication.

2. Testify before the Supreme Court of Heaven that he has violated specific divine imperatives: *homologeo*, i.e., confession alone to God alone.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess [*homologeo*] our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

3. Under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit resume the prerogative of spiritual growth under the principle of grace didactics: *didaktos* i.e, His teaching ministry.

1 Corinthians 2:12 - We have not received the world's spirit [cosmic systems of perception such as rationalism or empiricism] but the human spirit from the source of God [the Holy Spirit] in order that we might have a permanent knowledge of things [systematic theology] that have been graciously given to us by God.

1 Corinthians 2:13 - which things we [the Flag Apostles] also speak, not by teaching [*didaktos*: by means of the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics' system of rationalism and empiricism] from the source of man's wisdom, but by teaching [*didaktos*: by means of the Divine Academy of Grace Didactics' system of faith] from the source of the Holy Spirit, bringing together spiritual truth [Bible doctrine] to a spiritual system [*pneumatikos*: in the neuter referring to a system, i.e., GAP].