

devised (Phil. 3:4-7), knew about trying to work his way to God. He understood how the legalistic mind sets itself against grace, refusing to accept the fact that in man there dwells no good thing (Rom. 7:18).

Hebrews 6:1-2 tells us that human good is referred to as "dead works."

At every moment we have two choices: we can trust in ourselves—relying on our intellect and our strength and our goodness—or we can take a realistic look at ourselves and see that our only hope is to trust in God and rely on the riches of His grace.

#5 DOCTRINAL ORIENTATION:

How can you concentrate on your obligations and enjoy a relaxed mental attitude when problems intrude on every aspect of your life?

We need to think with the "mind of Christ" and apply that thinking to your circumstances. When you filled with doctrinal norms and standards, you rely on the Lord, make good decisions from a position of strength, and use the problem solving devices of spiritual maturity.

Most of the pain in our lives is self-induced.

The main reason we make stupid decisions and reject what God offers, only to jump on what Satan offers is that we lack discernment.

The enemy is a master of illusion; he knows how to make evil look good and good look evil.

Romans 12:21 tells us "Do not be overcome by evil"

The prophet Isaiah issued an even harsher injunction to the people of his day: "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and clever in their own sight!" (Isa. 5:20-21)

Good habits are just as easy to establish as bad habits. They come the same way; they come through repetition of decisions.