

Living Victoriously Through Biblical Self-Confrontation: Biblical Principles from Lesson 2

MAN'S WAY AND GOD'S WAY

Man, in his own wisdom, has developed a vast number of philosophies and theories seeking to explain one's thoughts, words, and actions. In doing so, man has pridefully sought to deny his own sinfulness and has confused any clear definition of God's standards of right and wrong (*based on Proverbs 14:9a, 12, 16; 21:2, 24; 26:12; Isaiah 5:20-21; 1 Corinthians 3:19-20; 1 Timothy 1:5-7; 2 Timothy 3:1-5*).

Biblical Principles

God's Word clearly shows that man's way of living is futile. Man has very serious shortcomings that he cannot change by himself (*based on Proverbs 14:12; Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 1:28-32, 3:10-12; 1 Corinthians 2:14*).

Man's Way

The natural man is inadequate

(Principle 7) You cannot live according to God's design in your own way or by your own wisdom (Proverbs 14:12; Isaiah 55:8-9; 1 Corinthians 2:14).

The natural man is rebellious

(Principle 8) The natural man is self-centered and rebels against God's way (Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 1:20-32; 3:9-18, 23; 10:1-3). Furthermore, partial obedience to God is just as unacceptable to Him as even your deliberate rebellion (based on 1 Samuel 15:1-23, esp. verses 22-23; Isaiah 1:10-20; Hosea 6:6; Micah 6:6-8; Mark 12:28-33, esp. verse 33).

God's way

Man needs to be changed

(Principle 9) It is necessary to be born again (to be born from above; to have a spiritual birth) in order to recognize, admit, and solve your problems in a biblical manner. Only God's solutions, grace, empowering, and wisdom are completely adequate for abundant living (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; John 3:3-8, 10:10; 14:16-17, 26; Romans 8:5-14; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; Ephesians 2:8-10).