

COUNSELING

I. Biblical statements

- Ps. 16:7 - "I will bless the Lord who has counseled me"
Ps. 73:24 - "With Thy counsel Thou wilt guide me"
Prov. 11:14; 24:6 - "in abundance of counselors there is victory"
Prov. 12:15 - "a wise man is he who listens to counsel"
Prov. 19:20,21 - "listen to counsel and accept discipline...The counsel of the Lord, it will stand"
Isa. 9:6 - "His name will be called wonderful Counselor..."
John 14:16 - "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper" (RSV, NIV - "Counselor". Greek word *paraklesis* - "to come alongside to encourage")
John 14:26 - "the Helper, the Holy Spirit, will teach you all things"
John 15:26 - "When the Helper comes, He will bear witness of Me"
John 16:7 - "the Helper,...I will send Him to you"
Rom. 12:8 - "he who exhorts, in His exhortation"
Rom. 15:4 - "through the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope"
Rom. 15:14 - "able also to admonish one another"
II Cor. 1:4 - "able to comfort those who are in any affliction"
Gal. 6:1 - "you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness"
Col. 1:28 - "admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we might present every man complete in Christ"
I Thess. 5:11 - "encourage one another, and build up one another"
I Thess. 5:14 - "admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted..."
Heb. 3:13 - "encourage one another day after day"
Heb. 10:25 - "encouraging one another"

II. Historical background leading up to modern counseling emphasis.

- A. Development of psychology as academic field of study
1. Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)
 2. Carl Jung (1875-1961)
 3. First degree program in psychology. 1870 in Germany.
 4. Carl Rogers - *On Becoming a Person* - 1961.
- B. Early integration of psychology in the church.
1. Franz Delitzsch - *System of Biblical Psychology* - 1869
 2. Liberal acceptance of psychological premises. Harry Fosdick.
 3. Wayne Oates - 1950s - *Protestant Pastoral Counseling*
 4. Paul Tournier - *The Meaning of Persons* -
 5. Henry Brandt - *The Struggle for Peace* - 1965
 6. Raymond Cramer - *The Psychology of Jesus and Mental Health* - 1959.
 7. Oswald Chambers - *Biblical Psychology* - 1962.
 8. Howard Clinebell - *Basic Types of Pastoral Counseling* - 1966.
 9. Frank Lake - *Clinical Theology* - 1966.
- C. Evangelical Christian counseling movement.
1. Clyde and Bruce Narramore - *The Psychology of Counseling*
 2. Gary Collins - *Psychology and Theology* - 1981 (Trinity)
 3. H. Norman Wright - *Marital Counseling* (Talbot)

4. Jay Adams - *Competent to Counsel*. "Nouthetic counseling" (Westminster) Also Wayne Mack, David Powlison
5. James Dobson - *Dare to Discipline*. (Focus on Family)
6. Charles Solomon - *Counseling with the Mind of Christ*. "Spiritotherapy." Also Bill Gillham.
7. Larry Crabb - *Principles of Biblical Counseling*. (Grace) Institute of Biblical Counseling.
8. Frank Minirth, Paul Meier - *Happiness is a Choice*. (Dallas) Also John Townsend, Robert Hemfelt, Henry Cloud, Richard Fowler.
9. Robert McGee, Pat Springle - *The Search For Significance*. Rapha.
10. Stephen Arterburn - *Growing Up Addicted*. New Life Treatment Centers. Also David Stoop, Jack Felton, Tim Timmons.
11. William Backus - *Telling the Truth to Troubled People*. Lutheran.
12. Neil Anderson - *The Bondage Breaker*. (Talbot)
13. Others: Lewis Smedes, Archibald Hart, Donald Sloat, Gary Smalley, Charles Swindoll, James Mallory, Maurice Wagner, Bill Gothard, Rich Buhler, Tim LaHaye, Florence Littauer, etc.

III. Concerns about counseling movement.

- A. Humanistic premises of secular psychology. Must avoid over-reaction of aversion to "psychology."
- B. Eclecticism, integration, adaptation of theology and psychology. Jumping on band-wagon of 12 step, victimization, codependency, etc.
- C. Professionalizing of Christian counseling. Mercenary motives?
- D. Counsel of men rather than God?
- E. Critical voices
 1. Martin & Diedre Bobgan - *Psychoheresy. Against Biblical Counseling; For the Bible*.
 2. William K. Kilpatrick - *Psychological Seduction*.
 3. Paul Vitz - *Psychology as Religion*.
 4. Thomas Szasz - *The Myth of Psychotherapy*.
 5. Clinton McLemore - *The Scandal of Psychotherapy*.

IV. Consideration of Christian counsel.

- A. Spirit of Christ is the Counselor - Isa. 9:6; John 14:16,26.
- B. Scriptural basis of determining God's will and ways. II Tim. 3:16.
- C. Sin is the basis of human problems. Rom. 3:23.
- D. All persons affected by past patterning of sin - "flesh" - Gal. 5:17.
- E. Human behavior is derivative in spirit, soul and body - I Thess. 5:23.
- F. Christians are enabled to behave differently by dependence upon Jesus Christ - Col. 1:27.
- G. Christians should encourage one another to love, fellowship, growth, holiness, prayer, etc. - Heb. 10:25.
- H. Christian counsel can serve evangelistic purpose - Matt. 28:19,20.