

The Inscrutable Question: Doctrine of the Stream of Consciousness: Intro, Problem-Solving Devices 7-10

#7: Personal Love for God. This is reverence and respect for the God of the Bible Whom we come to love through knowledge of His Word and come to look upon as our heavenly Father. It is expressed in two ways: (1) aggressive personal love for through enduring devotion and (2) responding personal love for God by means of respect.

#8: Unconditional Love for All Mankind. All people are viewed as potential players in the plan of God. Thus the believer's ambassadorship functions under **patience, compassion, and kindness**. These are expressions of soul integrity and characterize such a believer as a person of honor.

Patience, compassion, and kindness are not emotions. They are thoughtful responses from doctrinal rationales that are applied to life and circumstances under pressure.

On the other hand, **impatience, indifference, and malice** are emotions. They are thoughtless reactions from the sinful nature that are misapplied to life and circumstances under pressure.

NOTE: Personal love for God and unconditional love for all mankind must work in tandem. The former must always precede and motivate the latter. Mark 12:29-31; 1 John 4:7-5:2; Eph 3:16-19.

#9: Sharing the Happiness of God: Circumstances of life—whether adverse or prosperous—have no impact upon the believer's tranquility of soul. True happiness depends upon a relationship with God and thus functions as an inner resource.

Details of life are inconsequential. Soul tranquility is reflected outwardly to the devil's world through the virtues of optimism, objectivity, confidence, and stability in the face of adversity, stress, and pressure.

NOTE: The happiness of God is a divine attribute. Consequently, it cannot be an emotion.

#10: Occupation with Christ: Jesus Christ is the prototype Author and Perfecter of our faith. We look to Him for guidance and leadership. He becomes our Role Model and our personal Hero. By bringing every thought into captivity for Christ we come to develop an inventory of ideas just like His. We have received a transfer deposit from the eternal Logos into our streams of consciousness, demonstrated and proved effective by Him in the Incarnation. Therefore, we have the power to think like Christ, decide like Christ, and function like Christ and as a result have the accredited assets to execute the Christian way of life. This is life on the high ground of Mount *Pleroma*.