

How Are You Doing? Pt 5

Judges 21:25 *In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.* (NLT)

1 - How important are our standards? _____

If you were to spend time teaching someone the standards you use to guide you in your life, where would you begin, there are only two choices. _____ or _____.

2 - **Man's Word** leans toward _____ The idea that there are no absolutes... _____

B - Only the Bible provides us with everything we need to form clear standards to live by.

- They are based on what are called the: _____ of _____.
- Uniformity of Nature / Laws of Logic / Absolute Morality

C - **Uniformity of Nature** This is the idea that the universe is upheld in a law-like fashion. That the laws of nature will be the same tomorrow as they are today. _____

D - **Laws of Logic:** *the process of reasoning, conducted according to strict principles of validity.*

Logic is how we connect A to B and then to C. For example:

- If I were to say that all _____ have _____, and all dogs are mammals, therefore all dogs have kidneys.
 - That would be a logical statement because the the two premise support the conclusion.
- If I were to say that all mammals have kidneys, all fish live in the water, therefore the sky is blue..
 - That would **not be a logical statement** because the two premise do not support the conclusion: *even though all three statements are true.*

Logic is not about truth, it is about the process, the chain of reasoning that we use to get to our conclusion. _____

E - **Absolute Morality**: principles concerning the distinction between right and wrong or good and bad

- Absolute morality means that there is a standard that is higher than all others.

1 - Who taught you the standards you live by? _____

2 - Have you taken the time to compare your personal standards to the word of God? (Y /N) Most people who answer honestly will answer no. Not because they are bad people, but because we often just assume that because we are believers we do the right thing. We tend to have a lot of grace about our own mistakes. The truth is that even the best of us will find ourselves at odds with the Bible at some point, because none of us are perfect.

- Take a few minutes and write down one or two of the big standards that you live by (ie: obey the law, etc) _____
- Try to identify three or four qualifiers. Things that help you know that you are living according to that standard. _____

Locate a scriptural reference for each of your standards and the corresponding qualifiers then write out why you feel that scripture provides the foundation for that standard. _____

If you completed this exercise I want you to consider what you now have. 1 - A clear understanding of what and why you believe what you believe. 2 - A clear path you can use to teach that standard to others with a clear conscious because it is grounded in the firm foundation of scripture. I think that is worth the time it took to complete this short project, don't you?