

What Is Biblical Counseling? Part 1

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Introduction and Review

- A. A breakdown in society- the religion of secular humanism.

- B. The failure of the church.

- C. The emergence of the biblical counseling movement. Jay Adams: 1970's *Competent to Counsel*.

Harmful Errors of Modern Psychology

A. Is psychology a science in the same way that medicine is?

- 1. Should the pastor deal with the spiritual problems while the “mental health professional” deals with emotional and mental problems?

- 2. Psychology and theology both deal with the same fundamental issues of meaning and value, from widely differing perspectives.

B. Unscriptural presuppositions and practices of certain schools of psychology.

- 1. A faulty view of man.
 - Man is only an advanced animal: naturalism/materialism. Gen 1:26-27

 - Man is basically good, or at worst a blank slate. Rom 3:10-18, 23; Ps 51:5

 - Man is autonomous: able to solve his problems without God's help. John 15:5; 2 Tim 3:2

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IBCD Series; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 2-2-20

Introduction

Read Romans 15:13-14

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁴ And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.

'able to admonish one another' = competent to counsel (Jay Adams)

Admonish = *noutheteo* (from which we get 'Nouthetic Counseling')

More than teach, rather the idea of admonishing with the thought of correcting what is amiss; points to the 'reciprocal brotherly ministry of the members exercising pastoral oversight with a sense of congregational obligation' (Morris quoting Behm).

It 'describes an effect on the will and disposition and it presupposes an opposition which has to be overcome. It seeks to correct the mind, to put right what is wrong, to improve the spiritual attitude' (Behm quoted by Morris)

'Noutheteo (to admonish) carries the ideas of encouraging, warning and advising. It is a comprehensive term for counseling. In this context, it refers to coming alongside other Christians for spiritual and moral counseling. Paul is not referring to a special gift of counseling but of the duty and responsibility that every believer has for encouraging and strengthening other believers. (MacArthur)

This implies that all believers should be good Biblical counselors.

But this requires knowledge of the truth. ('filled with knowledge')

And a life committed to living out the truth. ('full of goodness')