



Doctrine of Separation: Mental Category: the Professional Christian; Physical Category: Avoiding the Propaganda of the Progressives' Rhetorical Veils

2. Categories of Separation: Mental

- (1) The integrity of the believer is not only challenged by the actions of others but also by the assaults they direct at him because of his loyalty to the Word of God.
- (2) When one associates with those who are in opposition to his standards often those standards are not only violated by them but also criticized.
- (3) Under these conditions the believer must remain filled with the Holy Spirit and maintain status quo spirituality.
- (4) This is accomplished by reliance on the two problem-solving devices of stage one of the sophisticated spiritual life: (1) personal love for God and (2) unconditional love for mankind.
- (5) Personal love for God is developed through spiritual growth and the acquisition of doctrinal principles that establish one's norms and standards and scale of values.
- (6) Personal love for God is expressed by the application of these principles under pressure. Loyalty to God's Word is an expression of reciprocal love for Him. This inner integrity is expressed outwardly to others as honor.
- (7) Unconditional love for others stresses the integrity of the subject rather than the attractiveness or repulsiveness of the object.
- (8) This means that one's associates are not evaluated in a sinful manner through emotional reaction but objectively by doctrinal analysis.
- (9) This is a professional approach to others that avoids emotional counterattacks, arguments, or judgments.
- (10) Often people who have had accidents enter into an emergency room very emotional and are certain they are about to die. However, the doctor although efficient remains objective and begins to evaluate the patient's condition in order to determine the best course of action.
- (11) It would not be good for the doctor to become emotional and begin to agree that the person is mortally wounded and that all hope is gone or to become upset with the patient because he is behaving irrationally.
- (12) The doctor's job is to remain professional, to reach an accurate diagnosis based on his knowledge of medical science and then to apply those techniques in an effort to restore the person to good health.
- (13) Likewise for believers. They should strive to reach the level of spiritual growth where they can deal with people, life, and circumstances with a professional response rather than an emotional reaction.
- (14) Profession, professional, and professionalism are defined as follows by:

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed., s.v.:

Profession: a calling requiring specialized knowledge and often long and intensive academic preparation.



Professional: (1): characterized by conforming to the technical or ethical standards of a profession
(2): exhibiting a courteous, conscientious, and generally businesslike manner in the workplace.

Professionalism: the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize a professional person.

- (15) Notice how these definitions describe a believer applying unconditional love to others which allows him to maintain a mental separation while continuing a personal relationship.
- (16) Christianity is a calling that requires specialized knowledge and long and intensive academic preparation.
- (17) A professional Christian is characterized by conforming to the technical (spiritual) and ethical (establishment) standards of the Bible.
- (18) A professional Christian exhibits a courteous (unconditional love), conscientious (governed by divine guidance), and generally businesslike manner (thoughtfulness of others without being hypocritical) in the presence of those he has discerned are implacable, i.e., locked-in arrogance manifest by traits that are incompatible with the spiritual life.
- (19) In this way the believer can continue a relationship without compromising his standards and maintain his integrity in a hostile environment.
- (20) Unconditional love demonstrates the Lord's attitude on the cross. It motivated him to die for the sins of the world and to pray for those who carried out his prosecution and execution.

3. Categories of Separation: Physical:

- (1) There are circumstances where mental separation through unconditional love doesn't work.
- (2) These include situations where one's thinking is assaulted by propaganda through the rhetorical veils of duplicity and deceit.
- (3) Those who wish to propagandize the innocent and unsuspecting use rhetorical veils that are designed to conceal while they advance their hidden agenda.
- (4) This technique is used by those who wish to accomplish dubious ends in order to win the acceptance of the naive who otherwise would reject them outright if the hidden agenda were known.
- (5) Solomon will bombard the Shulammite woman with a flurry of rhetorical veils yet she is able to withstand all of them because of her knowledge of doctrine and her loyalty to her right man.
- (6) She never insults the king or loses control of her emotions. She simply is not influenced by his advances and remains focused on the Lord's provision of a perfect man whom she possesses in her soul.
- (7) Therefore, unconditional love for Solomon enabled the Shulammite woman to remain respectful of his position of political authority while remaining loyal to the man who held the position of spiritual authority over her life.