
TRUE CHRISTIAN VIEW OF PSYCHOLOGY

THE MYTH OF CHRISTIAN PSYCHOLOGY.

There is no such thing as Christian psychology. We utterly reject such a philosophy. All psychological teaching is based on the faulty view of man. A good deal of it has been originated by some of the most wicked and confused men. In spite of the many warnings concerning the world and its philosophies, it seems that many Christian leaders want to be accepted by the world and therefore adopt its widely accepted principles. They seek to adapt these humanistic ways to the Bible. But it is like mixing oil and water - it doesn't work and you only spoil the water. God's Word has many warnings against this very thing: **"For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."** I Cor.1:19. **"That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."** I Cor.2:5. **"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."** Col.2:8. **"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoid profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science, falsely so called. Which some professing have erred concerning the faith..."** I Tim. 6:19,20.

MEN BEHIND PSYCHOLOGICAL THOUGHT.

While many deny it, the underlying ideologies of psychology go back to Sigmund Freud. It cannot be denied that Freud hated religion. He said, "I regard myself as one of the most dangerous enemies of religion." *-Life and Works of Sigmund Freud*, Ernest Jones. Thomas Szasz, leading author on psychotherapy, said: "One of the most powerful, motives of his life was to inflict vengeance on Christianity for its traditional anti-Semitism." Carl Jung, whose teachings are having a major resurgence today, was an avid student and friend of Freud. Jung said, "All neurotics seek the religious and all talk of God is mythological." He said he had a demon whom he called *Philemon*. Carl Rogers says he was raised a "Christian" but he said, "After almost 50 years as a psychologist my belief system is almost the antithesis of what I was taught." Albert Ellis claimed to be an atheist and he said, "Religiosity to a large degree is essentially masochism and both are forms of mental illness." Most psycho- logical thinking today is still along the lines of these men. How in the world can their godless schemes be harmonized with the Scriptures?

NATURE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TEACHING.

1. *It is humanistic!* It is the best man can come up with to answer man's problems. There is nothing factual about it, it is all subjective. For example, the supposed four basic personality traits: sanguine, choleric, melancholic and phlegmatic goes back as far as Socrates and the modern application to the 1700's and a man named Franz Mesmer (mesmerized). He taught there was a fluid that ran through the body that would cure all ills. He called it "Animal Magnetism."
2. *Everyone is considered unbalanced to some degree.* Thomas Szasz says, "In 20 years of psychiatric work I have not known a clinical psychiatrist to report that the subject was a normal, mentally healthy person."
3. *Every malady or faulty behavior is viewed as a disease;* not a moral problem. Alcoholism is a disease. An over active child is labeled ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, etc. GAD stands for General Anxiety Disorder - that covers all the "diseases" they can't put their finger on. The American Psychiatric Ass'n lists 384 official psychological disorders and more are being added all the time.
4. *According to them, there is no sin!* Everybody is basically good - no matter what crime they may have committed. The self-esteem gospel is a psychological gospel! Ellis said, "Dogmatically tell yourself, 'I am good because I am alive.'" Freud taught total self gratification was the goal. You must know that Freud's entire system was based on his crazy view that all deeds have their origination in sex. He said that teens should have all the sex they want. He wrote to Jung: "My dear, Jung, promise me that you will never abandon the sexual theory." Little wonder we have the problems we face today when half of all Americans have seen a psychologist, psychiatrist, etc. Pleasure, Yes, hedonism is the ultimate goal - do whatever you need to do to be happy. Ellis told of a thirty-year old young man who came to him who never had a date. Ellis told him he must have two dates a week from now on whether he wanted to or not. Ellis gloried in saying that within two weeks the man lost his virginity.
5. *It is based on empiricism.* That is, the only experiences which are valid are those which can be experienced through the five senses. How often have we all based something upon our senses only to find that we were entirely misled? Of course, this rules out faith! God says that the Christian **"Walks by faith and not by sight."**

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6. *These people despise all authority - except their own.* Freud cared nothing for the opinions or authority of parents saying, "Parents are nothing but riff-raff." And who was it who was paying him to treat their children? Many times, even very recently, I have been told by someone who was seeing a psychiatrist that they should no longer see me for I could not help them. And believe me, psychological workers have great power over people today.

THERE IS NO CHRISTIAN PSYCHOLOGY! The two are opposites! They cannot exist together; one is of the world and the other of God. The wisdom of God cannot be wedded to the wisdom of this world though many professing believers gave tried to do it. God said you cannot plow with an ox and a donkey yoked together, how then, can you try to solve problems, meet men's needs with such a mixture? It is only confusion! Yet there are thousands of *Christian* psychologists and millions of Christians (many of them are no doubt mere professors of faith in Christ) who patronize them and other psychologists. Countless pastors have turned themselves into psychologists and *Christian* counselors. It is one of the leading subjects at most Christian colleges and universities. One fundamental pastor, who went into counseling and became a psychiatrist, told me that when someone had a psychological problem he dealt with them on that basis and if they had a spiritual problem he used the Bible. What nonsense! Could he tell the difference? God is not sufficient for the whole man? In the first place, most problems have some basis in sin, but few want to deal with and the true psychologist doesn't believe in it.

WHAT ABOUT DOBSON, ETC.? People like this illustrate my point. When you wed the world and the Bible, the Bible always suffers. Dobson, and those like him, twist the Scriptures to fit their psychological ideologies. Dobson said, "The health of an entire society depends on the ease with which each member gains personal acceptance." That's the gospel of self-esteem! Pop psychology speaker and author Zig Ziglar said, "To build your self image, make a list of your positive qualities (forget the negative ones). Brag on yourself from time to time." Try to find that in the Bible?

PSYCHOLOGY IS NOT SCIENTIFIC AND HAS NO REAL CURES. Dr. Robyn Dawes, professor at Carnegie-Mellon Univ. and recognized authority on psychological accomplishments, said, "Virtually all research - and this book will research more than 300 empirical investigations - has found that these professional claims to superior intuitive insight and skill simply are not valid. What our society has done is license these people to do their own thing." Psychotherapy is totally subjective and solutions are based upon the supposed insight of the one who is doing the counseling. If seen independently, few, if any, would agree on a specific treatment for a particular person. I do not claim to be an expert, but I have formally and informally studied this subject over the years. I have dealt with hundreds of people who have visited psychiatrists, etc. Apart from a real salvation experience, I do not know of anyone who has gone to a mental health person and has been declared cured and no longer needs the psychiatrist. No, you will need him and his pills till you die! If you took away all the drugs that are dispensed by them, they could not continue in practice. One group of researchers stated: "It is clear that the negative effects of psychotherapy are overwhelmingly regarded by experts in the field as a significant problem."

PSYCHOLOGY IS OF THE DEVIL. Since it is strictly worldly wisdom, I do not hesitate to make that claim. I am not saying none of them is sincere, I am saying they are sincerely wrong and it would take a book to show the contradictions between the philosophies of psychology and God's Word. In reality, it's a false religion for it takes the place of God and His Word. Psychiatrist Thomas Szasz said, "Modern psychology is not merely a religion that pretends to be a science, it is actually a fake religion that seeks to destroy true religion. "You may trust God or you may trust psychology or anything else. I believe God; I know He has all the answers to man's needs and problems! God says, "**Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness.**" Jesus Christ and His Word is all you need for time and eternity!

*see also - "Mental Health Bill May Bring Bondage"

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