

Balanced Christianity

Ecclesiastes 7:18 It is good that you grasp this, And also not remove your hand from the other; For he who fears God will escape them all. NKJV

Ecclesiastes 7:18 It is good to grasp the one and not let go of the other. The man who fears God will avoid all [extremes]. NIV

I. Balancing Grace And Faith With Law And Works

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

**“A Christian man is free from all things; he needs no work in order to be justified and saved, but receives these gifts in abundance from his faith alone.”
(Martin Luther, *The History of Christianity*, p. 366)**

**“All the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger. The way a man lives has nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul”
(Sam Morris, Minister of the First Baptist Church)**

James 2:24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

“When in the fourth and fifth centuries the doctrine of original sin and consequently of the necessity of baptism for all became better known, the practice of infant baptism progressed rapidly.” (*Legislation on the New Code of Canon Law*, p. 72)

**“As soon as the money in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory’s fire springs.”
(Johann Tetzel as quoted by Martin Luther)**

Romans 5:2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

James 2:12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

Galatians 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

II. Balancing Love And Zeal With Knowledge

1 Corinthians 13:13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1 John 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

Romans 10:2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

1 Corinthians 13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

Philippians 1:9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,

Matthew 22:37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

1 John 5:4 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.

III. Balancing Worshipping In Spirit With Worshipping In Truth

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Matthew 15:9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

1 Samuel 15:22 So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

Isaiah 29:13 Therefore the Lord said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men,

Ephesians 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

1 Corinthians 11:28 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

