

# Principles That Make Up Fanaticism

● **Principle #1:** "Satan will insinuate himself by little wedges, which widen as they make a place for themselves. The specious devices of Satan will be brought into the special work of God at this time." Selected Messages, book 2, p 21.

The first principle of fanaticism is that it will start as little wedges attaching themselves to the truth until they find a place in the message.

● **Principle #2:** "Some had been bringing in false tests, and had made their own ideas and notions a criterion, magnifying matters of little importance into tests of Christian fellowship, and binding heavy burdens upon others." Selected Messages, book 2, p 318.

The second principle of fanaticism is that people will make their own ideas and notions into tests, or will magnify matters of little importance into being tests of Christian fellowship.

● **Principle #3:** "He [or Satan] brings in little fables which are not worth a straw. These he brings forward as tests God has given, when Satan has originated them to divert minds from the true tests God has given." Evangelism, p 213.

The third principle of fanaticism is that little fables are made to appear as tests which God has given so minds can be diverted from the true tests.

● **Principle #4:** "With some the evil has revealed itself in the form of man made tests for ascertaining a knowledge of the will of God; and I was shown that this was a delusion which became an infatuation, and that it was contrary to the will of the Lord." Selected Messages, book 2, p 28.

The fourth principle of fanaticism is that man made tests are made to appear as God's will when they have nothing to do with God's will.

● **Principle #5:** "With much that is truth there is mingled error that is accepted in its extreme meaning, and acted upon by persons of excitable temperament. Thus fanaticism will take the place of well-regulated, well-disciplined, heaven-ordained efforts to carry forward the work to its completion." Selected Messages, book 2, p 17.

The fifth principle of fanaticism is that truth is mixed with error and then stretched to its extreme meaning which tends to produce excitement, and destroys organized efforts to carry forward God's work.

● **Principle #6:** "Their religion (of fanatics) did not consist in righteous acts, true humility of soul, and sincere devotion to God, **but in impulse, in noise and confusion, spiced with eccentricities and oddities.**" Testimonies, vol 2, p 553.

The sixth principle of fanaticism is that actions are performed through impulse and some of these actions are spiced with eccentricities and oddities.

● **Principle #7:** "There were some who professed great humility, and advocated creeping on the floor like children, as an evidence of their humility. **They claim that the words of Christ in Matthew 18:1-6 must have a literal fulfillment at this period, when they were looking for their Saviour to return.** They would creep around their houses, on the street, over bridges, and in the churches itself. I told them plainly that this was not required; that the humility which God looked for in His people was to be shown by a Christ-like life, not by creeping on the floor. All spiritual things are to be treated with sacred dignity." Life Sketches, p 85-86.

The seventh principle of fanaticism is that the Scriptures are interpreted literally and the actions performed, when the Scriptures should have been interpreted spiritually, representing character.

● **Principle #8:** "Everything seemed prepared for the work of Satan. **He led many on to lay aside reason and judgment, and to be governed by impressions.** The Lord requires His people to use their reason, and not lay it aside for impressions. His work will be intelligible to all His children. His teaching will be such as will commend itself to the understanding of intelligent minds. It is calculated to elevate the mind." Testimonies, vol 1, p 230.

The eight principle of fanaticism is that reason is laid aside to be governed by impressions (such as "I believe" or "I think" or "the Lord told me," which includes dreams).

● **Principle #9:** "**Not once should feeling be allowed to get the mastery over judgment.** There is danger of excess in that which is lawful, and that which is not lawful will surely lead into false paths. If there is not careful, earnest, sensible work, solid as a rock in the advancement of every idea and principle, and in every representation given, souls will be ruined." Selected Messages, book 2, p 18.

The ninth principle of fanaticism is that feelings will be followed instead of sound judgment and God's word.

● **Principle #10:** "There are many who claim to believe and teach the truth **who have error and fanciful ideas of their own mingled with the truth.** But there is an exalted platform for us to stand upon. We must believe and teach the truth as it is in Jesus." Selected Messages, book 2, p 29.

The tenth principle of fanaticism is that error and fanciful ideas are mingled with the truth, and then this whole mixture is made to appear as the full truth.

● **Principle #11:** "Some zealous ones who are aiming and straining every energy for originality have made a grave mistake in trying to get something startling, wonderful, entrancing, before the people, something that they think others do not comprehend; but often they do not themselves know what they are talking about. **They speculate upon God's Word, advancing ideas that are not a whit of help to themselves or to the churches.** For the time being, they may excite the imagination; but there is a reaction, and these very ideas become a hindrance. Faith is confounded with fancy, and their views may bias the mind in the wrong direction. Let the plain simple statements of the Word of God be food for the mind; this speculating upon ideas that are not clearly presented there, is dangerous business." Selected Messages, book 2, p 13-14.

The eleventh principle of fanaticism is that something which is not clearly presented in God's word is speculated upon and made to appear as new truth directly from God.

● **Principle #12:** "From the light given me of the Lord, men will arise speaking perverse things. Yea, already they have been working and speaking things which God has never revealed, bringing sacred truth upon a level with common things. **Issues have been and will continue to be made of men's conceited fallacies, not of truth. The devisings of men's minds will invent tests that are no tests at all, that when the true test shall be made prominent, it shall be considered on a par with the man made tests that have been of no value.** We may expect that everything will be brought in and mingled with sound doctrine, but by clear, spiritual discernment, by the heavenly anointing, we must distinguish the sacred from the common which is being brought in to confuse faith and sound judgment, and demerit the great, grand, testing truth for this time...

"Never, never was there a time when the truth suffered more from being misrepresented, belittled, demerited through the perverse disputings of men than in these last days. Men have brought themselves in with their heterogeneous mass of heresies which they represent as oracles for the people. **The people are charmed with some strange new thing,** and are not wise in experience to discern the character of ideas that men may frame up as something. **But to call something of great consequence and tie it to the oracles of God, does not make it truth.** Oh, how this rebukes the low standard of piety in the churches.

**"Men who want to present something original will conjure up things new and strange, and without consideration will step forward on these unstable theories, that have been woven together as a precious theory, and presented as a life and death question."** Selected Messages, book 2, p 14-15.

The twelfth principle of fanaticism is that things which God has never revealed are made an issue and a test and connected with the sacred truth. And when the truth is presented these false tests are also brought in and made to appear as a life and death question; meaning if you do not follow this new and strange doctrine, but reject it, then your salvation is lost--when no "Thus saith the Lord" can be used to back it up.

● **Principle #13:** "The reproach resting upon the cause in regard to Sister A rests heavily upon you. You made much of her exercises and experience. She was weak, yet could in a measure fill her place in her family and keep her children together; but she had been from her home but a short time before her reason was dethroned. The backslidden state of the professed Sabbath-keepers in \_\_\_\_ **led you to influence Sister A to leave her family who needed her care and come to \_\_\_\_ that her influence might help the Sabbath-keepers there. An unhealthy excitement marked her course.**" Testimonies, vol 1, p 315.

The thirteenth principle of fanaticism is that it leads to a broken home. The fanatical believing spouse leaves the non-believing spouse because they will not go along with the new doctrine.

● **Principle #14:** "Every phase of fanaticism and erroneous theories, claiming to be the truth, will be brought in among the remnant people of God. These will fill minds with erroneous sentiments which have no part in the truth for this time. **Any man who supposes that in the strength of his own devised resolutions, in his intellectual might united with science or supposed knowledge, he can start a work which will conquer the world, will find himself lying among the ruins of his own speculations, and will plainly understand why he is there.**" Selected Messages, book 2, p 14.

The fourteenth principle of fanaticism is that without a plain "Thus saith the Lord" as proof to back up their theory, fanatics will unite themselves with science and latch on to some scientific article or medical journal to prove that their idea is indeed the truth for this time. (NOTE: you can find both sides to any argument printed in these scientific articles and medical journals).

These are the 14 principles which makes up fanaticism. Thus, when any doctrine comes to you, these principles can be applied to it. If the doctrine matches up with any of the above principles, then it is a possible fanaticism which must not be accepted without careful and prayerful comparison with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. After testing the suspected doctrine to the law and the testimony, if even one contradiction is found, then there is **NO LIGHT IN IT** and is must be avoided and spoken against.

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