

Principles of Application - Overview
Studying, Interpreting & Applying the Bible - Herichsen & Jackson

Rule 1: Application must be focused on pleasing God rather than pleasing others (pp 260-262)

Our ultimate model for godliness must be Christ, not men.

Rule 2: Every problem a person has is related to his or her concept of God (pp 262-264)

Rule 3: Attitude is as important as action in obeying God's commandments. (pp 264-268)

Rule 4: Surrender is the cornerstone of all application. Refusal to surrender blurs our ability to discover and do God's will. (pp 268-271)

Rule 5: Application is a process, not a single event. (pp 271-273)

Rule 6- In those areas of life not addressed by the Scriptures, we must develop personal convictions to govern our behavior. (pp 276-279)

Corollary: The lack of a specific prohibition does not give freedom to violate either the general principles of the prohibition nor to act contrary to specific and general principles proscribed by the scriptures

Rule 7- When applying the Scriptures, we must make a distinction between the positive and negative commands (pp 279-281)

Negative commands tend to be somewhat more clear / more precise than positive commands

Rule 8 - Each person is individually responsible for applying the Scriptures to his or her own life. (pp 281-282)

Rule 9 - In all things, we must be teachable. We must be willing to admit that we are wrong, change direction, and appear inconsistent. (pp 283-284)

Rule 10 - The acknowledgment of wrong must be followed by restitution when it is within our power (pp 284-286)

Rule 11 - We must consider God's command rather than His chastisement as the motive for application. (pp 287-290)

Rule 12 - Knowledge carries with it both privilege and responsibility (pp 290 - 292)

Knowledge of truth brings freedom - ignorance keeps you in bondage to lies

Rule 13 - There is no such thing as a nonessential command (pp 292 - 294)

A command by definition is essential and is to be obeyed.

Rule 14 - We must not insist that we will obey only after a seeming contradiction in commandments is resolved. (pp 295)

Rule 15 - Although there is no distinction between sins, there is a difference in [immediate / temporal] consequences. (pp. 298-300)

Rule 16 - Disobedience adds to confusion when adverse circumstances come (pp 300-302)

Rule 17 - God's permissive will is entered only through a failure to apply the Scriptures (pp 302-304)

Rule 18 - We must refuse to yield to what we know is wrong. Satisfying the drive will only momentarily alleviate the hunger and will stimulate a desire for more (pp 304-306)

Rule 19 - Culture cannot serve as an excuse for not obeying God's commands (pp 306-308)

Rule 20 - The difference between a trial and a temptation lies in origin and response (pp 308-310)

A temptation arises from lusts, not God. It is internal

A trial or test can arise from God. It is external

Part 1 - We cannot measure progress in application (i.e. in an absolute way - only as a comparison to a previous state). (pp 311 -313)

Rule 21 - Circumstances do not indicate God's approval or disapproval - (pp. 313-314)

Rule 22 - The validity of personal application is not dependent on another's acceptance of approval. (pp. 314-315)

Rule 23- We must resist the temptation to judge others as less spiritual when they do what the Lord has forbidden us to do. (pp. 316-317)

PART 2 - The objectives of applying God's word to our lives are to please God, to strive for moral excellence, and to leave a godly legacy. (pg 318)

Rule 24 - The path to intellectual excellence is curiosity, investigation, and experimentation; but the path to moral excellence is obedience. (pp. 319-320)

Rule 25 - Our conduct, good or bad, will affect the generations to follow (pp. 320-324)

Rule 26 - We must maintain an accountability relationship with a group of people who will exhort us to faith and good works. (pp. 326-328)

Rule 27 - Godly counsel is helpful in the quest for obedience, but it should never be used to avoid personal responsibility (pp. 328-329)