

WHAT IS BIBLICAL COUNSELING? PART 2

Christian Approaches to Counseling

- A. Radical separation: the pastor and psychologist are professionals working in different realms.
 1. Pastors refer cases dealing with emotional problems to qualified counselors.
 2. Psychology and biblical Christianity address the same human problems from very different viewpoints.
 3. Who is qualified to counsel? *Gal 6:1; Rom 15:14*
- B. Integration: psychologists who happen to be Christians are best suited to helping people with their problems.
 1. These people tend to use their psychological training as a starting place, with scripture being applied to support the psychological ideas. *Mark 12:31; 2 Tim 3:1-2*
 2. They tend to accept psychological findings uncritically while neglecting sound in-depth Bible teaching.
 3. The danger of integration. *2 Cor 6:14-18*
- C. Synergism/spoiling the Egyptians: since “all truth is God’s truth,” Christians should add the best of psychology to what the Bible teaches.
 1. They claim to use Scripture to critically examine the findings of psychology.

2. They have the same problems as the integrationists.
3. Their system is usually built around extra-biblical concepts.
4. That which was taken (spoiled) from the Egyptians was silver, gold, and garments, not ideas and beliefs. *Lev 18:3-4; 1 Cor 3:19; Col 2:3, 8-10*