



*Two Important  
Principles*  
in the  
Conduct of Life

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*Principle #1*  
**EXCELLENCY (or Priority)**

*“That ye may approve things that are excellent ...”* (Philippians 1:10).

Some things in life are *excellent*. This suggests a value system. There are numerous social, cultural, economic, political, and religious systems to determine value. Ultimately only the divine appraisal is dependable and of lasting value.

We are to “approve” things that are excellent. The root of this word “approve” is “prove.” We must test the things of life. If they pass the test, then they are “approved.”

A divine example of excellency is *love*. Clearly does Paul write of love as

*“a more excellent way”* (I Corinthians 12:31).

This whole value system and process of approval suggests the idea of identifying the things in life that have priority, or preeminence. We must learn to divinely prioritize the issues of life. This is a result of spiritual growth.

*Principle #2*  
**MODERATION (or Balance)**

*“Let your moderation be known unto all men” (Philippians 4:5).*

Balance is another important aspect of life. Life is not always, “this or that,” “either, or.” We do not study the Scriptures to the exclusion or neglect of eating. We do not work to the exclusion or neglect of leisure. We do not minister to others to the exclusion or neglect of our families.

The idea is that of an “even keel.” Sometimes we can get carried away with one particular area of life and lose our balance.

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