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**PRINCIPLES**

**Pastor Randy King**

**A series of lessons on Biblical principles, designed to instruct and admonish Christians. Much of this material is from Dr. Rene Ouellette from Bridgeport, Michigan. It is my prayer that God will use these lessons to strengthen us in the word of righteousness. A key passage is Hebrews 5:12-14.**

**DEFINITIONS:**

***PRINCIPLE***--Conforming to virtue and piety; an orderly walk. (Strong's Concordance) "...A

 law comprehending many subordinate truths..." (Webster's Dictionary) Hebrews 5:12, 6:1 **A PRINCIPLE IS A BIBLE TRUTH THAT I MUST LIVE BY TO BE PLEASING TO GOD.** Related Bible terms: Statutes, judgments, precepts, law of the Lord, thy Word, commandments.

***CONVICTION***--Convinced; admonition; rebuke (Strong's Concordance) "...the state of being convinced or convicted by conscience; being sensible of guilt; acknowledging error..." (Webster's Dictionary) John 8:9, Romans 2:15  **A CONVICTION IS A PERSONAL BELIEF BASED ON A BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE WHICH I GUIDE MY LIFE BY.**

***STANDARD***--A banner; to lift up an ensign; to raise a beacon (Strong's Concordance) "...That which is established by sovereign power as a rule of measure by which others are to be adjusted..." (Webster's Dictionary) Isaiah 59:19 **A STANDARD IS A GUIDELINE TO HELP ME KEEP MY CONVICTION**.

***PREFERENCE***--To exalt or excel; to lift up (Strong's Concordance) "...estimation of one thing above another, choice of one thing rather than another..." (Webster's Dictionary) Psalm 137:6  **A PREFERENCE IS SOMETHING I CHOOSE OR PRACTICE WHICH HAS NO DIRECT BIBLICAL BASIS, BUT WHICH I BELIEVE IS PLEASING TO GOD. Often, the Holy Spirit guides sensitive Christians in matters of doubtful things, especially regarding areas of life that affect our testimony to the lost or weak believers.**

***HANG-UP*--SOMETHING I BELIEVE VERY STRONGLY, AND EVEN THOUGH I KNOW IT IS NOT IN THE BIBLE, I WISH IT WAS!**  Frequently, hang-ups are a result of false teaching, preconceived ideas, or spiritual pride. While preferences can be somewhat substantiated by scriptural truths, hang-ups are merely a person's opinion or belief about something with no Biblical foundation. Often, carnal or weak Christians focus on these areas rather than true Biblical principles.

***This series of lessons is presented with the Bible principles as the focus. After first establishing the Bible principle, we will develop convictions, determine standards of conduct, and review the related preferences. Then we will examine some of the popular hang-ups associated with each topic. It is my prayer that these lessons will be used of God to perfect the saints and edify the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-16, Isaiah 28:9-10***