

**Articles and Sermons :: Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Jesus Christ - Paul West****Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Jesus Christ - Paul West - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2010/10/24 10:27**

Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Jesus Christ

"Our universe is held together by laws which operate according to the principles of balance. The stars, the planets, and the moons which orbit them are all placed within a deliberate sphere of balance which governs their positions. Should any one of these celestial orbs escape its confine, immediate discord and chaos would result.

The ancient moon of our planet holds a wonderful spiritual lesson for us. It hangs in space with no light of its own save for the reflective glory of the sun. Without the sun's illumination, the moon would remain a dark orb, completely undetectable to the human eye from earth. But as long as it maintains a balanced orbit, it is available to reflect a portion of the sun's glory upon the earth.

The moon is held in its place by laws; conflicting gravitational pulls keep it in a perfectly balanced distance from our planet. On one side exists the earth's gravitational pull; on the other side exists the sun's. Both laws are constantly working against each other to keep this satellite in a perfectly balanced orbit. Should any one force unbalance the other, discord would occur. For the beloved in Christ, there are many things to learn from these principles.

Observe, for instance, that the Word of God speaks of two laws working within the believer: the law of sin and death, and the law of the Spirit and life (Romans 8:1, 2). One law is forever pulling the believer toward the earth, while the other is forever pulling him away from the earth. But it is the pull of both which keeps him in his present state. This is why God does not eliminate the pull of the flesh once we are born-again. He could easily eliminate the pull of flesh for us with one glimpse of His inexpressible glory, but such would bring a great departure and uselessness for us upon this earth. Instead, we are told to overcome the earth's pull in such a degree as to where we can uphold a beneficial balance, for it is in this balance where we efficaciously radiate the light of the Son to those on earth.

The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth, and also into all balance. Many times He will warn and exhort children of God to shun certain discussions. This is because certain discussions have the tendency to throw a believer off balance. A popular topic of debate these days is man's freewill choice versus God's sovereignty. God's Word is balanced concerning the two, but man's tendency is to weigh too heavily on one side or the other. The result is always discord, division and debate. The moon breaks orbit and thus ceases to shine on earth.

When these kinds of orbital breaks occur, the renegade satellite always speeds earthbound, instead of back towards the sun. This is due to a disproportionate factor on the earth's behalf rather than the sun's. When man wrests scripture to say what he wants it to say according to his limited wisdom, the earth's influence increases and carnality abounds (James 3:14-17). There are two kinds of wisdom, just as there are two laws; divine equilibrium occurs when man is able to differentiate between the two while maintaining his abode in Christ.

It is important to understand that this equilibrium must pervade all areas of a Christian's walk: towards God, towards other believers in ministry, and toward unbelievers. Before we look more closely at these principles, we need to begin at the foundation of where God has hung our spheres in space: firstly, at the balance of our relationship and understanding of Him.

1. Divine Equilibrium in God

Our understanding of God and how He relates to us is crucial if we are to enjoy the principle of divine equilibrium in our walks. If we allow God to hang the sphere, the conflicting laws of gravity will automatically reconcile themselves to our positions.

To begin, we must recognize that some spheres are not perfectly formed; some are oblong, while others are oval or some other diametric distortion of a perfect circle. These non-circular distortions almost always point to an improper understanding of our positions of completion in Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:10).

As the sun is at the center of our solar system, so God's Son must be at the center of our spiritual system. This may seem like basic information for babes, but it is surprising how few believers actually understand this simple truth. Had they understood it, God would have established divine equilibrium in their walks much sooner. The Lord has given us many object lessons to illuminate this truth. From heliocentric systems in astronomy all the way to the free radicals of microbiology, God's design is to demonstrate that in the full gamut of man's observation, the all-governing principle of Christocentricity is inescapable.

Until we have a revelatory understanding that we have been divinely placed into Christ by God (I Corinthians 1:30), and that Christ's life is henceforth to be lived through us in lieu of our own (Galatians 2:20), our orbits will be in complete discord. Though we transverse space, we do it as comets, never at rest and always exhibiting a tail of our own self-transient glory. We will never enter into the rest of God, no matter how straight our theology is or how much we discipline the flesh, until we allow God to establish balance.

Peace and rest must be ours before peace and rest can be engendered from us unto others. A revelatory understanding of what God has already done for us in Christ is vital if our spheres are to be built and maintained by Him. Although there are different theological systems in Christianity just as there are different solar systems in our galaxy, one thing must be present if God's created purpose is to operate within them all: a Star must be at the center. This is why God can move within alien frameworks, often defying the theological vehicles of men, as long as Christ's life is the spiritual nucleus of the believer within the given system.

Those who have entered into the rest of Christ, and who are divinely balanced in God, draw away from theological debates and strivings about the law (Titus 3:9; II Timothy 2:16). The Holy Spirit has shown them that such activity generates imbalance, unrest and actually occludes faith's eye from continuing to look unto Jesus. This is a very hard concept to embrace for most, because theology and God are often thought to be inextricably linked.

What is needed in the life of a Christian is not so much correct theology but correct doctrine. When a believer aligns himself with impure doctrine, his theology—no matter how correctly adhered to—will be to no avail. However, a believer with pure doctrine will triumph in God despite his theological leanings (I Timothy 4:16).

For example, today there are myriads of strivings and debates concerning Arminianism versus Calvinism in relating to which is the most accurate and/or balanced view according to the revelation of scripture. Both sides have adherents that move in the authority of God, and both sides can boast of genuine revivals occurring under the auspices of their system. This is because God is bigger than the denominational systems of men; He transcends men's theology and compartmentalization efforts. He bypasses religious systems and seeks instead to abide within individuals irrespective of their denominational leaning. All that's needed doctrinally is the revelatory principle of Christ in man, the hope of Glory. Such an understanding creates the perfect sphere from which He can now begin to establish equilibrium in the life of the believer.

If the eyes of our faith can be opened to the divine glory of Christ in us, and consequently a life which is no longer self-propelled, activities once indulged in will no longer hold an allurement. If the eyes of our faith can be opened to the everlasting power of Jesus Christ's blood, depression and discontent will no longer hold us hostage. If the eyes of our faith can be opened to the unsearchable love of God for His children, the threat of separation will no longer keep us under the anxiety to perform works. And if God has brought an understanding of Christ's abiding centrality into the spirit of a believer, rest will immediately result with divine balance soon to follow.

Divine equilibrium in God is found in simply knowing our positions in Christ. There is a tremendous sense of sanctuary which comes in reckoning ourselves dead and our lives hid with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3). All the strife of life suddenly comes to an end, as a picture of a man in death sinking peacefully into his pillow as he takes his final breath. Such is the rest we discover in realizing our deaths in Christ (Romans 6:6).

With the realization of this death comes a sudden balance in God. Since the life of Christ is perfectly balanced, and through His death we were raised into His life, the balance found in Jesus Christ becomes our balance; His patience becomes our patience, His humility becomes our humility, His love for others becomes our love for others, His faith becomes our faith, His zeal becomes our zeal, His compassion becomes our compassion. His divine nature is a divinely balanced nature, full of glory and perfection, grace and truth, and it is this very nature we are invited to enter into and partake of by faith (II Peter 1:4).

Once the Lord has given us such an understanding as mentioned above, the need to assert ourselves theologically will cease.

ease, for it will be shown that these types of debates are normally predicated upon a desire to inflate our own spirituality in the eyes of others. No longer content in being a luminary of God within the rest of divine equilibrium, we desire a comet's radical zeal and the spectacular tail that follows it. Beloved of God, the Holy Spirit will never endorse such carnal motives, and will render even the Word of God in such cases an instrument of death rather than life (II Corinthians 3:6) if one attempts to use it to build a tail. Imbalance in God always brings spiritual death, failure and deep falling; whereas divine equilibrium in God always brings abundant life and peace.

To gain this balance in God, one must first seek to be balanced. God searches the hearts of His children to see who genuinely desires to be balanced in all aspects of their spirituality, and to those honest seekers He delights in preparing the way for divine equilibrium in Jesus Christ."

...to be continued

Paul West

Re: Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Christ - Paul West - posted by davym (), on: 2010/10/24 18:46

Wonderful stuff. So refreshing.

Quote:
-----As the sun is at the center of our solar system, so God's Son must be at the center of our spiritual system. This may seem like basic information for babes, but it is surprising how few believers actually understand this simple truth. Had they understood it, God would have established divine equilibrium in their walks much sooner. The Lord has given us many object lessons to illuminate this truth. From heliocentric systems in astronomy all the way to the free radicals of microbiology, God's design is to demonstrate that in the full gamut of man's observation, the all-governing principle of Christocentricity is inescapable.

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2010/10/24 23:50

Thanks Paul,

I am always fascinated in how things relate to each other. There aren't really different rules for one thing over another. Once we understand how things work whether on microscopic and cosmological scales, in physical and spiritual realms, we see compelling evidence that everything has been conceived, designed and put in place from a single limitless creative "mind"!

MC

Re: Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Christ - Paul West - posted by UntoBabes (), on: 2010/10/25 12:19

Had to get the dictionary out a lot (:

Made me think of something said by Art Katz,

"The last testing of our fidelity to Him and our abandonment to Him is our willingness to pass through the veil of our correctness and into the realm where He is. He, who alone is Lord, will seem to contradict Himself, testing us to see where our real devotion ultimately lies. Does it lie in Him or in our convictions about Him? Does it lie in Him who is Truth or in the truth about the Truth?"

Re: Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Christ - Paul West, on: 2010/10/25 21:32

Paul,

To be balanced as you suggest, you must also be in orbit. ;-)

Re: Entering into Equilibrium - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2010/10/26 23:36

"Those who genuinely seek to have the principles of divine equilibrium at work in their own walks are invariably drawn to the stability and maturity of balanced believers. The imbalanced brethren discern peace and wisdom in the words and behavior of their balanced brethren, and yearn for such principles to be manifest in their own lives.

As God directs a believer into the pathways of equilibrium, great spiritual unrest will often ensue at the beginning. This is because a vessel of instability must first be broken, reshaped and painstakingly refined before a balanced state of faith is achieved (I Peter 1:6-7). The Lord brings the believer through manifold trials and failures, often to the brink of emotional and spiritual despair, to expose the unbalanced state and point him to the level-beamed cross. After exposing the lack in equilibrium, the Lord then blankets the believer with revelations of His Son's finished work and His amazing love and grace, thus insulating His raw and hurting child with heavenly comfort and truth (II Corinthians 1:4). This process is repeated over and over again, with each new failure and exposure, giving the believer an ever-increasing light on both the futurity of his flesh and on his position of blessed death in Jesus Christ.

Until this truth is embraced with revelatory faith, the struggle of the Christian life will persist. No amount of anointed books on the subject, scripture memorizations, praying for strength or listening to the Word preached will suffice to render this blessed understanding; instead, God uses our own failures in serving Him, our tears, our groans, our protracted seasons of spiritual withdraw and soul darkness to prepare us for the wheel of conformity to Christ (James 1:2-4; Romans 8:28).

The wheel of conformity upon which God transforms unbalanced vessels of autonomous life into balanced vessels of the grace and truth of His Son's Life is most painful and slow. Those who pray to be used of God while in infancy will assuredly encounter this wheel in their maturity, and can expect to experience His mighty hand in balance maintenance for the remainder of their lives (Hebrews 12:6-7). Dear Saint, are you willing to undergo such treatment, such ruthless attention from God? If the answer is yes, there is only one requirement from the Lord on your behalf: in all His dealings with you, regardless of how many times you've fallen and failed through sin, always be honest with Him. There is no limit to what God can accomplish in you and through you if you resolve to always be honest with Him. By the confession of one's imbalance, one is instantly brought back into balance.

The Lord looks upon failures and outcasts, undone believers and crestfallen sinners, and invites them to be whole in His Son. The broken state of a believer's heart sets a wonderful stage for God's recruitment. He often lets a believer drift more and more off balance until it is realized that one's condition is "irretrievably lost" if God does not intervene. Man has judged the outcome, yet God silently waits. When at last the believer's state of imbalance becomes too intolerable to continue any further while still naming the Name of Christ, the Lord will suddenly pose the question: "Will you be made whole?" (John 5:6).

...to be continued

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2010/10/26 23:47

Quote:

-----To be balanced as you suggest, you must also be in orbit. ;-)

Sorry, not sure I understand your point. Have I contradicted myself somewhere?

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2010/10/26 23:56

Quote:
-----"The last testing of our fidelity to Him and our abandonment to Him is our willingness to pass through the veil of our correctness and into the realm where He is. He, who alone is Lord, will seem to contradict Himself, testing us to see where our real devotion ultimately lies. Does it lie in Him or in our convictions about Him? Does it lie in Him who is Truth or in the truth about the Truth?"

Those are some cerebral breathings, no doubt. Katz was so very special. He was a fine-tuned instrument in God's Hand, and his words cut to the quick. Thank you for this snippet dear friend.

God bless,

Brother Paul

Re: Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Jesus Christ - Paul West, on: 2010/10/27 12:16

Hi Paul,

Quote:
-----Both laws are constantly working against each other to keep this satellite in a perfectly balanced orbit.

I apologise. You did mention orbit. Somehow, I missed the allusion.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2011/4/5 18:01

I wanted to bring this back up to the surface, as I am preparing to add new sections and edit the existing material. My prayer is that someone finds these ruminations edifying.

Brother Paul

Re: Principles of Divine Equilibrium in Jesus Christ - Paul West - posted by staff, on: 2011/4/5 18:32

Hi Paul,

I think this is all a bit complicated for me, I have to say.

Maybe what you are saying would come out better in a pulpit rather than in word.

Also what happens when one christian says about another that dont listen to him hes not in equilibrium. Sometimes some christians may appear out of sync but are not. We could say to Paul the apostle for instance hey stop discussing that issue because you are obviously not seeing both sides your not in equilibrium.

I think it would be fair to say that when a christian finds their position in Christ that they become at ease with themselves and other members of their churches.

Just on this section below I thought God searches the heart to see who love him not to see whether they desire to be balanced.

(To gain this balance in God, one must first seek to be balanced. God searches the hearts of His children to see who genuinely desires to be balanced in all aspects of their spirituality, and to those honest seekers He delights in preparing them for divine equilibrium in Jesus Christ.)

I guess part of what I am saying is I am a bit uncomfortable with the language you are using to get your points across,
Yours Staff

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2011/4/5 19:43

Hi Staff,

I'll admit this is not an easy quick and read, and truthfully, it is not a treatise written for new Christians. These ponderings admittedly weigh more on the cerebral side of Christian development and maturity than anything else, and are intended for introspective thought. The concepts are advanced, but not as advanced as, say, the theology of John Owen or some of Art Katz's more meaty writings.

Although God seeks to see who loves Him, I think you'll agree that He also seeks for other things: for example, our motives in doing what we do, giving what we give, taking what we take, the drive behind our speaking and thinking, etc. Throughout our walks with Christ, He inspects the integrity of our hearts with each season we go through. He seeks to find believers who earnestly desire to be delivered from some besetting sin and be ever-more conformed to the image of Christ. Not everyone desires this, though many profess loving Him. The balance I write of, quite plainly, is not some sort of perceptible temperance or moderation in speech or action on our part, but rather a deeply spiritual one which God instills upon those who desire to go to neither extreme and which is found in the person of Christ alone. It is the process of which the writer of Hebrews expressed as going onto perfection. It is simply God's maturation of us in Christ, in which I've been attempting to describe -- however substandardly :))

May God deeply bless you.

Re: - posted by ManofGod0000, on: 2011/4/5 20:59

U know somewhat of what I have been enduring, and much of it has to do with this beautiful read that will thoroughly bless the believers that dive into its full understanding, and all of it will not come at once, as I am finding out.

But I can say that God is a God that I never dreamed of Him being in my life....

I will reply on more here as I continue to ponder

Re: - posted by staff, on: 2011/4/6 18:24

Hi Paul,

Its the terminology, For instance if I started using the terms yin and yang to describe some correct christian doctrine. It would just cause confusion in my opinion. The principles of divine equilibrium was never mentioned by any new testament writers. Why can you not use a term like what you said earlier maturation in christ which is mentioned in part. I do see teaching on becoming mature but becoming balanced, I'm not sure. I would see becoming godly as becoming more balanced.

There are plenty of christian terminology out there do we need more...perhaps, perhaps not.

In fact your message is probably for the newer christian who is not mature or for the older christian that has stood still if that is possible. In one way what you are saying is I was saved when I accepted Christ and I am being saved in the sense God is doing a work in me and I am getting closer to Christ, more like him the most balanced person to walk the earth. I don't think we have to pray to be more balanced, we should pray to be more like him and we automatically become more balanced.

On balance what your saying may be over my head and be correct but I do think terminology has a life of its own, grows legs and tends to walk all over the place.

Yours Staff

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2011/4/6 20:43

Hi Staff,

The concept of "divine equilibrium" I speak of here is not a doctrinal point at all, and was never meant to be one. It is simply an illustration of a spiritual dynamic we all face as we mature in the Lord. There are plenty of these illustrations throughout Scripture and in the writings of the Puritans and other men of God. My usage of planetary laws and orbits is purely epigrammatic in this sense.

Quote:

-----The principles of divine equilibrium was never mentioned by any new testament writers

I realise this. But neither are the "principles of sanctification" or "principles of brokenness" per se, though these both are v

valid, experiential concepts Christians encounter as they progress with God and mature. I've chosen to use universal laws - laws such as planetary motion and gravity - to lend a pithy simile in explaining the spiritual truth of a believer's balance in Christ. Some will find it useful, others won't obviously.

The term "divine equilibrium" is rationalized like this: "Divine" meaning it is God Himself who does the positioning of us within Christ, and "Equilibrium" to mean a gain of proportionate balance in our understanding of truth and grace, in which fruition is not automatic, but comes gradually over time. And that's basically it. Colorful words and illustrations to explain the process by which God brings us closer and closer to Christlikeness in all areas of our walks.

Brother Paul

Re: , on: 2011/4/6 23:31

Quote:
-----Instead we are told to overcome the earth's pull in such a degree as to where we can uphold a balance for it is in this balance where we efficaciously radiate the light of the son.

Amen.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2011/11/19 19:38

excellent wisdom,,,thought i would bump some of paul west's writings,,,,,,,

thanks paul,,,please pray for me brother so i might experience true death with christ

Re: Blessed by this - posted by Cerve, on: 2024/1/9 13:26

I found this so edifying...I went back a few times just to reread most of it. So well written, thank you & God Bless

Re: - posted by TrueWitness, on: 2024/1/10 10:32

It is hard discussing things in words where there needs to be a balance because invariably, one side or the other is either overemphasized or perceived that way and it's off to the races of debate and arguing.

-Daniel