

Letter 257
Before Proceeding Any Further
2014-06-14

Dear Dan,

Please allow me to take this time to share a couple of “thinking aids”, or intellectual tools the Lord gave to me during the time of Satan’s worst assault against my mind and body beginning in early 2011.

It may be that I might need to refer to these in future writings.

The first is a rating scale that is designed to help me prioritize things that need to be done. It is pretty simple, but I have found it useful in many ways.

Pretty much anything that required me to make a decision found itself in one of these four categories. I would ask the question;

Is it...

1. ... MISSION CRITICAL?
2. ... MISSION ESSENTIAL?
3. ... MISSION BENEFICIAL?
4. ... MISSION WASTEFUL?

This is the ACTION PRIORITY TABLE (APT).

Of course, anything that ended up on line #4 was dismissed as coming from the “good idea fairy”.

There is a chronological factor involved in the event two things emerge at once that might seem to reside on the same priority line. A form of triage then takes place to determine the priority rating based on time sensitivities.

The other tool was a way for me to analyze things that I knew or things that entered my mind, regardless of source. This comes in handy when I am thinking about claims made, especially regarding Doctrinal issues.

Again, I would ask a series of questions.

IS...

0. ... MORE INVESTIGATION NEEDED?

1. ... IT ALREADY KNOWN TO BE TRUE FOR FACT-CERTAIN?

2. ... IT ASSUMED LIKELY TO BE TRUE? (THIS ALWAYS REQUIRES MORE INVESTIGATION)

3. ... IT ASSUMED LIKELY TO BE FALSE? (THIS ALWAYS REQUIRES MORE INVESTIGATION)

4. ... IT ALREADY KNOWN TO BE FALSE FOR FACT-CERTAIN?

5. ... IT STILL A MYSTERY?

This is the ANTI-DECEPTION GRID (ADG)

I use the ACTION PRIORITY TABLE a lot when I am in high pain and have only enough energy to accomplish a few things.

I use the ANTI-DECEPTION GRID all the time now before I come to any opinion about any thing or any one.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus