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Scale Stand Scale

**Proverbs 11:1 “A false balance is
abomination to the Lord: but a just weight
is his delight.”**

How's the balance in your life? Are you spending enough time with God each day?

Would God say you use a “just weight”? Do you compare yourself to the weight and balance of the Bible or to those around you?

We are told it is unwise to compare ourselves to others.

2 Corinthians 10:12, “For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.”

- How does God view a Christian's life that is out of balance with unjust weights?

Micah 6:11, "Shall I count them pure with the wicked balances, and with the bag of deceitful weights?"

The devil uses deceitful excuses (weights) to keep our lives out of balance:

"I may not read much, but I do my duty."

"I really don't understand the Bible and do not get much out of it, that's why I don't read it."

"Keeping up with my kids and the house chores leave me little time for anything else."

"My mother only spent a few minutes a day in the Bible, and I turned out okay. So why do I need to do more for the sake of my kids?"

"I don't know anyone who spends more than 15 minutes a day with God, why should I?"

"If you knew the responsibilities I have, you would never ask me to spend more time with God."

"God knows that my heart is right and that's enough."

"I just let God tell me what I need to know and I don't worry about the rest."

"I'm at church every time the doors are opened. Isn't that enough?"

These are just a few examples, but there are many weights that can drag us down and bring about imbalance in our lives.

Are there any deceitful weights in your bag?

- Deuteronomy 25:13-14, "Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small. Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small."

God desires for us to have a balanced life and be honest with those outside our home ("in thy bag" – we take our bag with us when we leave the house) and inside ("in thine house"), including ourselves.

Too often we are good about taking care of others but bad about taking care of ourselves. I am not talking about pampering yourself with excursions, salon visits, shopping, etc. I am talking about taking care of our bodies through right eating habits, exercise and taking care of our spirit through daily dedicated time with God and serving Him. This is the balance that concerns God and should concern us.

- Leviticus 19:35-37, "Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt. Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD."

Some definitions from Webster's Dictionary 1828

Meteyard- A yard, staff or rod, used as a measure

Ephah, Epha – A Hebrew measure of three pecks and three pints, or according to others, of seven gallons and four pints, or about 15 solid inches

Hin – A Hebrew measure of capacity containing the sixth part of an ephah, or about five quarts English measure.

God wants us to have balance and make daily judgments based upon His Word.

I was raised with the idea that you do not bother God about the little things in life. I was told, “That’s why God gave you a brain.” But I have learned over the years that God cares about the big things (Ephah) as well as the little things (Hin). Deuteronomy 25:13-14 uses the phrase “a great and a small”. He desires for me to look to Him for wisdom about everything, little or big.

- When it is time to make a decision or a judgment call, I remind myself that I cannot trust my own wisdom and I simply ask God for direction.

Proverbs 3:5-8, “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and morrow to thy bones.”

- God highly values a just weight and balance. He shows us how important this is through His creation. Everything on this earth was created using exact measures and weights.

Isaiah 40:12, “Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?”

Proverbs 16:11, “A just weight and balance are the LORD’s: all the weights of the bag are his works.”

- Jeremiah 30:11, “For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.”

God even corrects us giving us an exact just measure of punishment, never more than we deserve.

- So why do we find it so difficult to balance out our life?

Mark 4:19-20, “And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.”

These verses tell us there are three things which keep us out of balance: cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things.

These verses also tell us that there are two red flags waving which warn us if our life is out of balance: you choke on the word of God and you are unfruitful.

When you evaluate yourself with God's Word, giving yourself a "report card", what grade do you get?

Are you having difficulty getting anything out of your daily reading time which touches your heart? Do you walk away from the church service taking nothing away from the preaching of the Word? Are you simply doing the "Christian" motions?

Proverbs 20:9-11, "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sins? Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD. Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right."

If you go by a day without seeing any sin in your life, you can guarantee that your life is out of balance and you are using divers weights and measures to evaluate yourself.

Proverbs 20:14, "It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth."

Have you ever met someone who haggles over everything, even to the point of lying for gain? I find it interesting that verse 14 is so close to Proverbs 20:9-11 which talk about unjust measures and weights.

This pictures a Christian doing all the right motions in church, pretending they are right with God. When the Holy Spirit tries to convince them that they are walking on the wrong path they shout like the buyer, "I'm not! I'm not!"

The other red flag which lets us know if our life is out of balance is found in our fruit basket.

Are you fruitful? What's your fruit count? Have you meet the minimum of thirty?

God blesses a balanced Christian life with a most wonderful blessing, longer life on this earth.

That's more time to influence your children to live a life for God who will in turn influence their own children. That's leaving behind a priceless gift, a Christian heritage!

It is also more time to fill up your fruit basket so it overflows, reaching more souls for Christ. Set your goal on the maximum, 100.

Deuteronomy 25:15, "But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."