PHI 943-32

Orthodoxy and Orthopraxis

Kay Lyn Carlson

Omega Graduate School

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Professor

Dr. David Ward

Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week

of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage with other students during

the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade

assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

Orthopathy

In Patrick Oden’s you tube lecture on orthopathy he describes how orthodoxy (right beliefs, intellectually focused), orthopraxy (right practice, emotionally focused) and orthopathy (right passions and desires) intertwine and all are necessary for a transformed life (2020, July 7). In addition to right beliefs and right practice, discerning right passions, and desires requires a navigator, a guide (Holy Spirit) in order to be rightly oriented (in tune vertically), walking in the ways of the Spirit, which leads to a fulfilling kingdom work-life actively participating in serving God. Walking in the Spirit produces fruit and avoids deceptions, lies, and going astray (2020, July 7). The fruit of the spirit is found in Galatians 5: 22 -- love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (NKJV, 2007, pg. 2608).

Those without the Holy Spirit’s direction, may have intellectual prowess, emotional intelligence, power, wealth, and still hate life. Why? Because as King Soloman learned, without the right passions and desires, self-satisfying pursuits left him empty and fruitless. Life, he discerned, had become meaningless versus meaningful. “Therefore I hated life because the work that was done under the sun was distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind” (NKJV, 2007, Ecclesiastes 2:17, pg. 1385).

Without orthopathy, people can become disconnected from God resulting in what Oden refers to as feelings of death where darkness, depression and fear reside. These consequences arise due to not being “rightly oriented in their love and identity” (24:55). A tension builds between what the self wants and what God wants, and when this occurs, our peace is disrupted indicating a moving away from walking in the Spirit (2020, July 7).

This author chose orthopathy to learn more about how to know when one is walking in the Spirit. How one can draw closer to the Spirit for direction? How does one know if the Spirit is working inside of them? And lastly, how does one know if they’re living a spirit filled life? The tension that Oden speaks of is very real in this author’s life vacillating between the feelings of death and experiencing the fruits of the Spirit. Reflection requires a humble heart, open to receive God’s wisdom in order to live a fruitful and meaningful life.

**I enjoyed reading your responses to the content questions for PHI 943-32, Kay Lyn! You did a wonderful job articulating the essential elements of orthopathy in the course. Nice work citing the supporting YouTube video links to support your responses. Keep up the great work! -- Prof. David Ward**

**Grade A**

WORKS CITED

Life Application Study Bible. (2007). Tyndale.

Oden, P. (2020, March 13). *TH559-04 Orthopathy.* [Video]. You Tube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmgkSOnSV7g

Pastors Roundtable. (2020, July 7). *Orthodoxy and Orthopraxis*. [Video]. You Tube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3Z2CFMBhpI