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Milo Rediger

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Quotes That Concern Me

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QUOTES THAT CONCERN ME

by

Milo A. Rediger

"---students should be able to decide for themselves what their consciences can digest. If Taylor students will retain open minds of maturity, they will be able to censor enough to satisfy their own personal view of life, and they will not have to worry about satisfying anyone else."

"---by responsibility I mean freedom, with no rules, in which we are responsible to ourselves. ---It means accepting one's own standards above those of the institution even when you know where the institution stands."

"---you must listen to your own heart, and do what it dictates. Because your heart is the only thing which can tell you what you think is right and what is wrong."

From these and other student expressions I am hearing - my standards come only out of my own heart and mind; my own heart ultimately tells me what to do; I am responsible only to me; my concept of God is entirely different from yours; standards are different from your side of the desk than from mine; because you are a faculty member or an administrator you have to feel and talk that way, but as a student I don't buy it; my highest loyalty is to me.

This selfish autonomy concerns me because it seems to overlook the number one priority of the Christian faith and life. It seems to ignore the two channels of the revelation and communication of the Christian faith and life - Jesus Christ and the Bible. I cannot escape, nor can you, the fact of objective standards as revealed in Christ and declared in the Bible. We may disagree about the exact details of

interpretation, but this is understandable. What concerns me is the apparent disregard of, or the denial of status or relevance to, these objective standards, as represented or implied by the quotations.

How dangerous is this totally subjective standard was explained by Jeremiah in the Old Testament (17:9) "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (K.U.V.) or, in Moffat, "Deep is a man's mind, deeper than all else, on evil bent." How can this be our ultimate source of authority or the object of our highest loyalty? It is like saying that having the right to do it makes it right to do it.

So when you say, "I am responsible only to me," I ask, how about Him? When you say, "My heart tells me what to do," I say, look to the condition of your heart. When you say, "I am my own standard," I wonder, what about Christ's law-fulfilling love standard?

These are my questions; you probably have answers.