

in our activity. We must get the best information we can. We must work out the best methods we can. We must find how we can decide from our human effort, human study just as far as possible what we should do. But we can also know that if we truly are doing our best the pillar of cloud is there. And God will lead us if we truly are consecrated to Him and though we may seem not to succeed, though we may seem to make ~~a~~ bad mistakes, though we may often after we have done our very best find ourselves over here and say Oh, if only I had gone that direction think how much more I would have accomplished. If we have truly put the Lord ~~the~~ first and if we have truly done our best to get the information and make the decisions the best we could, then when it turns out not well we can know that God has a purpose in it. And God may in the end accomplish far more through our failures than through our successes. We should never look for failure. We should do our best to avoid it, but when in spite of that it comes we can know that God really was leading ; the pillar of cloud was really there, and His purposes were accomplished though we don't understand perhaps now what they were, we will understand eventually. There is no real contradiction between these two aspects which it is often hard for us to see how they fit together.

I was one time speaking at a conference of students that was a conference that lasted some weeks. And there were many fine people there. And there was a doctor there, a fairly young doctor who was spending a yr. or 2 representing a Christian medical society in travelling about for them. He came to me with some problems. And I found that this was the basic problem that he was very much disturbed about. He said, God controls everything and yet, he said, if I make a mistake and make the wrong diagnosis the person dies. And if I give the right treatment the person gets better. And he said, How can you reconcile this? And I talked to him at great length, and he found great difficulty in reconciling these two factors. And we do not understand how they fit together. They seem absolutely parallel to us, but they meet in the clouds somewhere. There is no contradiction. We just don't know how they fit together, but they are both true and they are both vital.

~~Human~~ Human causality is important. We make mistakes and bad results follow and we should