

minds construct great systems, but in so doing even the very greatest minds make guesses at certain points. And it is a human tendency in defending one's system to speak loudest and strongest about those points on which there is less evidence.

One is reminded of the story of the lawyer advising a young lawyer. He said when the facts are with you and there is a question about the law, emphasize the facts. When the law is with you and there is a question about the facts, emphasize the law. When neither the law nor the facts are with you pound the table and speak loudly! This is a fault into which theologians can easily become and particularly the followers of theologians.

I once worked for a time with a group which followed a system most of which was very good. But I became extremely disgusted at the attitudes that developed in the group. The attitude to me seemed to be this: their system included a thousand points. Differ on one of these points and you were already on the toboggan that leads to absolute ~~h~~unbelief. All points were on an equal level. No matter how good a system may be if we make the system instead of the Bible our ultimate determination, we are in danger of seriously injuring the work of Christ.

A third great evil which we must constantly avoid is that of placing equal emphasis on all points that we believe. There are matters that are clearly taught in Scripture on which we can stand without question. There are matters which may seem to us to be quite definite in Scripture but on which other equally consecrated and equally intelligent Christians feel quite sure we are wrong. On these points we should be charitable and try to find ways of cooperation instead of building up barriers.

The fourth is the tendency to follow guesses. I was looking at a commentary the other day by a very fine Christian thinker. In the commentary he would come to a certain verse and he would say, This verse it is true looks at first sight as if such and such were the case. However, on closer examination we find that these conclusions are highly questionable, and that there is no reason to think that this is the case. Later on he would come to another verse which would seem to