

SYSTEM OF MEASUREMENT

Something which is relatively new to this country is the Metric System of weights measures. In the United States we have our own system which we call the English System of weights measures. Many do not like the Metric System because we have 'grown up' with the other and sometimes change is very difficult. We have a good concept of an inch, pound, or cubic yard, but become bewildered if we have to think in terms of a cubic centimeter, meter, or liter.

Some things are easily changed from one system to the other. For instance, it really doesn't make a lot of difference if we fill our car with gallon or liter of gasoline because our tank will be filled either way. Also, if we drive from one city to the next it is the same distance whether we measure it in kilometers or miles. But other areas of measurement can be more difficult to convert. The Metric System uses Celsius temperature readings in which 24 degrees is a comfortable room temperature. Another problem can occur in cooking. Cups, teaspoons, and ounces don't easily mesh with milliliters and grams.

Not only do we sometimes have trouble going from one standard to another (English to Metric) in physical things, but we have trouble in the spiritual realm as well. The Bible says in Hebrews that, "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (NASB). When we become Christians, we change our standard of rules to live by. We are translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of His beloved Son (Col. 1:13). By faith, we will please God, and recognize that He rewards those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6).

But within our change of lifestyle and viewpoint we often have trouble changing our system of measurement. As spiritual people of faith we still want to measure things in the old carnal ways. If we measure our faith by how many TV sets we have, the amount of food in the freezer, the kind of car we drive, and the spaciousness of the home we live in, then we have the wrong standard.

The Hebrews writer said that we have the conviction and assurance in the things that are not seen. This tells us that our standard of success not measured in physical or carnal things but in those things, which are invisible and eternal.

We cannot have a Positive Spiritual Attitude (PSA) if we claim to be people of faith and then measure our success by physical things. Paul echoed Hebrews 11:1 in the 2Corinthian letter when he said those things which we see are temporal and those things we do not see are eternal (2Cor. 4:18). The faithful Christian realizes that his life on this earth temporary and those things around him are too. Christians place hope and trust on a new and different standard; the eternal truths of God. Let us, therefore stop looking around at the things we have, and would like to have, and develop our PSA by measuring life by great bounty of spiritual blessings we enjoy at God's hand; understanding that our eternal life In heaven is much more precious than any earthly gain.

Many people do not like the Metric System because they do not use it or understand it. Likewise, many people today do not enjoy their Christian lives because they don't measure their accomplishments by the right standard. You can have a Positive Spiritual Attitude if you will use measuring stick of spiritual success.

Until next time, memorize Hebrews 11:1, and develop your PSA.