

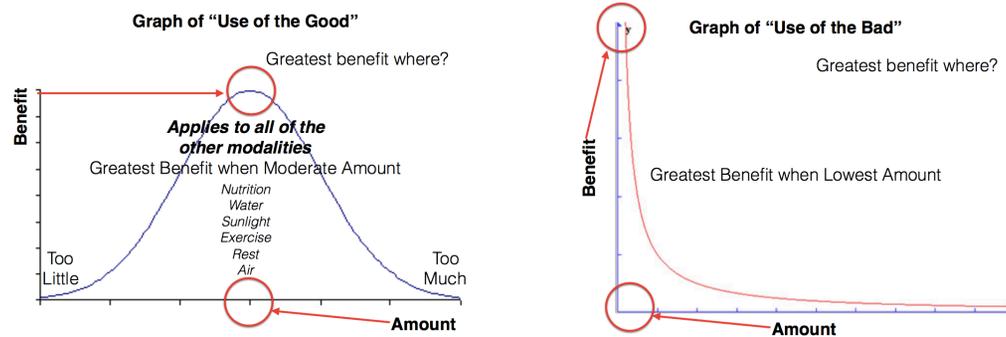


Avoiding Counterfeits

Fred Bischoff, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, Adventist Pioneer Library
www.APLib.org

Be in Health:
Health in Light of the Gospel
series

Temperance



- Differentiating between “good” and “bad”
 - Good: in harmony with natural law, physiology
 - Bad: lack of harmony; mixed effects (not all bad); side effects

Goals

- Goals:
 - 1. Experience good feelings (joy)
 - 2. Lessen bad feelings (pain)
- Nothing bad in these goals themselves

Feelings

- Key: Feelings follow, so don't follow feelings
 - 1. Don't ignore feelings = thermometer
 - 2. Don't let them lead
 - 3. Be wise to understand what leads to feelings = principles
 - 4. Make decisions made on principles

If Feelings Lead

- Road to counterfeits: seeking to feel good in wrong ways.
- God has created us for joy: attempt to find joy without God, living only for self (“get, get”)
- Shortcuts to joy: end up in wrong place.

Principles

- To avoid or move away from counterfeits
 - 1. “Something better”
 - “‘Something better’ is the watchword of education, the law of all true living. Whatever Christ asks us to renounce, He offers in its stead something better. Often the youth cherish objects, pursuits, and pleasures that may not appear to be evil, but that fall short of the highest good. They divert the life from its noblest aim.

Development
Reform

Principles

- To avoid or move away from counterfeits
 - 1. “Something better”
 - “Arbitrary measures or direct denunciation may not avail in leading these youth to relinquish that which they hold dear. Let them be directed to something better than display, ambition, or self-indulgence. Bring them in contact with truer beauty, with loftier principles, and with nobler lives.

Principles

- To avoid or move away from counterfeits
 - 1. “Something better”
 - “Lead them to behold the One ‘altogether lovely.’ When once the gaze is fixed upon Him, the life finds its center. The enthusiasm, the generous devotion, the passionate ardor, of the youth find here their true object. Duty becomes a delight and sacrifice a pleasure.” {Ed 296.3}

Principles

- To avoid or move away from counterfeits
 - 2. Reason from cause <> effect
 - “Teach your children to reason from cause to effect. Show them that if they violate the laws of their being they must pay the penalty in suffering.” {CT 127.1}

Principles

- To avoid or move away from counterfeits
 - 3. Counterfeit looks like genuine
 - “The track of truth lies close beside the track of error, and both tracks may seem to be one to minds which are not worked by the Holy Spirit, and which, therefore, are not quick to discern the difference between truth and error. {1SM 202.2}

Principles

- To avoid or move away from counterfeits
 - 1. “Something better”
 - 2. Reason from cause <> effect
 - 3. Counterfeit looks like genuine

Counterfeit Cures

- Surface cures
 - Numbing the symptoms while neglecting the cause (e.g., eradicating pain but not exploring the root of pain)
 - Ignoring physiology (body chemistry, processes)

Self-Medicating

- Self-medicating: many addictions
 - Need mood elevated
 - Need to cope with stressors
 - Instead of using God's modalities, quick fix; e.g., nicotine or alcohol to cope with stress or pain
 - successful withdrawal requires "something better" to cope/change chemistry

Specific Counterfeits

- Non-physiological chemicals: may be highly addictive
- *pharmakeia*: source = the flesh: Gal. 5:20
“witchcraft”; called to repent: Rev. 9:21; universal deception: 18:23; often the chemistry of joy is “hijacked”
- Non-biblical philosophies: also addictive!

Specific Counterfeits

- Counterfeit philosophies:
 - “**lovers of their own selves**” (2 Tim. 3:2);
misinterpretation of Matt. 27:39 where “as thyself”
= give thyself; emotional focus remains turned
inward, pleasing self, stimulating self

Specific Counterfeits

- Counterfeit philosophies:
 - “**no difference** between the holy and profane”, (Ezek. 22:26); ethical non-duality; put together what God has separated; “free love” = agape counterfeit; Ed 227.6; GC 556.3 & 558.1

Specific Counterfeits

- Counterfeit philosophies:
 - **anthropological dualism** teaches the opposite of “the body without the spirit is dead” (James 2:26); separate what God has put together; GC 556.2

Specific Counterfeits

- Counterfeit philosophies:
 - **doctrine of Nicolaitans** (Rev. 2:6,15); “turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness” (Jude 4); religion becomes a cloak for sin rather than a cure; rejects “faith without works is dead” (James 2:26)

Specific Counterfeits

- Counterfeit philosophies:
 - **presumption**; rejects “not tempt the Lord thy God” (Matt. 4:7); counterfeit of faith; “claims the promises, but uses them as Satan did, to excuse transgression” (DA 126.1)

Specific Counterfeits

- Counterfeit philosophies:
 - **mysticism** (bad mystical) “Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light” (2 Cor. 11:14); emergent Christianity, demonic meditative practices (chemically addictive, triggering body’s own chemistry, deluded into thinking its an encounter with God), leading straight into ethical non-duality and anthropological dualism

Freedom

- Freeing power of forgiveness
- “In every town and city there are large numbers who do not attend any place of worship. Many of these are attracted to the camp-meeting. Many come who are slaves of sin, the helpless victims of evil habits. Many are convicted and converted. As they by faith grasp the promise of God for the forgiveness of their sins, the bondage of habit is broken.

Freedom

- Freeing power of forgiveness
- “The liquor drinker and the tobacco devotee forsake their indulgences. They become free men in Christ Jesus, and rejoice in the liberty of the sons of God. This is the work to be done in all our camp-meetings. Through this means thousands will be won to Christ and the Truth.” {PH130 45.3}

Freedom

- Motive power:
- “The Expulsive Power of A New Affection” (Thomas Chalmers, 1780-1847): “A moralist will be unsuccessful in trying to displace his love of the world by reviewing the ills of the world. Misplaced affections need to be replaced by the far greater power of the affection of the gospel.”

Freedom

- Motive power:
- Compare:
 - “the love of Christ constraineth us” (2 Cor. 5:14)
 - only thing that “avails anything” is “faith which worketh by love” (Gal. 5:6)
 - “Christ our righteousness” = “one interest” that will “prevail”, “one subject” that will “swallow up” all others

Story



- Dr. J. H. Kellogg Trainee
- D. H. Kress: During the 1892 Chicago World's Fair Dr. Kellogg opened a medical mission in Chicago to help the poor and addicted. Daniel one of 3 who volunteered to work at this Chicago mission for several months, and he said it was one of brightest experiences of his life. He also saw miraculously healings while working at Battle Creek. (Daniel and Laurretta Kress, *Under the Guiding Hand*, pp. 53-61)

Story



- Dr. J. H. Kellogg Trainee
- Dr. David Paulson: also in class with D. H. Kress. He worked in Chicago the rest of his life (died young). He began the Hinsdale Hospital. He gave this testimony of gospel witnessing: “Once I had a very sick patient under my care and did not know whether he would live or die. I was just going to a class at seven o’clock in the evening, but felt that I must go to this patient and find out whether he was a Christian or not.

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg Trainee
 - “I met his wife and asked if he was a Christian. She said, ‘No, and that is just what I wish somebody would do,—talk to him about it.’ I asked him if he had ever given his heart to God and he said, ‘No.’ I tried to show him that God was ready to forgive him, in fact, had already forgiven him and he did not know it.

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg Trainee
 - “I prayed with him and when I finished praying he said ‘Amen’ in a way that I knew he meant it and felt it. That night that man died. Now if I had smothered that impression as I have smothered other impressions, I would have been remorseful ever after.” (David Paulson, *Footprints of Faith*, p. 84)

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - Unfortunately, Dr. Kellogg's own story became a lesson in the counterfeits.
 - 1. He met opposition from within the church on health reform.
 - “God does not endorse the efforts put forth by different ones to make the work of Dr. Kellogg as hard as possible, in order to build themselves up.

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - “God gave the light on health reform, and those who rejected it rejected God. One and another who knew better said that it all came from Dr. Kellogg, and they made war upon him.”
 - 2. He took eyes off Jesus to fight his opponents: “This had a bad influence on the doctor. He put on the coat of irritation and retaliation.” {GCB, April 6, 1903 par. 24}

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - 3. He exalted himself; case of Nebuchadnezzar
 - “The case that I have so many times brought before Dr. Kellogg as illustrative of his own dangers [is] the case of Nebuchadnezzar.... I have warned the doctor not to follow the course of this king, who said, ‘Is not this great Babylon, that I have built . . . by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?’” {17MR 268.3}

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - 4. In the law and gospel formula, he apparently he leaned toward law, and became confused on what began the Loud Cry, not realizing that it had already began in “the revelation of the righteousness of Christ”—the very message that had converted him. Instead he thought it would start in the work we need to do for God. (1888, p. 1073.7; compare SpTB06 29.1 and Kellogg’s 1893 talks at the GC session.)

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - 5. In over-emphasizing the medical missionary work, the Loud Cry was being lost. The right arm of the church's evangelism was becoming the body.
 - “Medical missionary work must leave room for the ministry of the Word. Contempt is never to be expressed in regard to the promulgation of God's Word....

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - “I have laid out the matter as it has been presented to me. The third angel’s message, in the place of swelling into a loud cry, is being smothered....” (Ms177-1899, par. 18 & 22)

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - “The medical work has been represented as the right hand of the body of truth. This hand is to be constantly active, constantly at work; and God will strengthen it. But it is to remain a hand; it is not to be made the body. I desire that this point shall be understood. The living truth of God is to be made known in our medical institutions.” {AUCR, July 21, 1899 par. 25}

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - 6. Taking his eyes off of Jesus in his retaliation against his enemies derailed his spiritual judgment and made him vulnerable to counterfeit mystical forces. He wrote *The Living Temple* which was permeated with pantheistic concepts, the closest counterfeit to “the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.” (Col. 1:27)

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - “One and another come to me, asking me to explain the positions taken in *Living Temple*. I reply, ‘They are unexplainable.’ The sentiments expressed do not give a true knowledge of God. All through the book are passages of Scripture. These scriptures are brought in in such a way that error is made to appear as truth. Erroneous theories are presented in so pleasing a way that unless care is taken, many will be misled.

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - “We need not the mysticism that is in this book. Those who entertain these sophistries will soon find themselves in a position where the enemy can talk with them, and lead them away from God. It is represented to me that the writer of this book is on a false track.

Story

- Dr. J. H. Kellogg
 - “He has lost sight of the distinguishing truths for this time. He knows not whither his steps are tending. The track of truth lies close beside the track of error....” {1SM 202.1&2}
 - Kellogg’s direction out of Adventism has distinct connections to the modern, mystical emergent church movement connected to the philosophy of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

Importance of Maturity

- “When for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” (Hebrews 5:12-14)

Further Study

- The book *The Ministry of Healing*, which covers both counterfeits in physical as well as philosophical areas.
- See Chapter, "Helping the Tempted" (ends with:)
- "By the miracle of divine grace, many may be fitted for lives of usefulness. Despised and forsaken, they have become utterly discouraged; they may appear stoical and stolid.

Further Study

- “But under the ministration of the Holy Spirit, the stupidity that makes their uplifting appear so hopeless will pass away. The dull, clouded mind will awake. The slave of sin will be set free. Vice will disappear, and ignorance will be overcome. Through the faith that works by love, the heart will be purified and the mind enlightened.” {MH 169.2}

Further Study

- See Chapter, “Danger in Speculative Knowledge”
- Deals with “Pantheistic Theories” (see also *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 8, Section “The Essential Knowledge”)

