

Consistency (Foy Wallace, Jr.)

Some one said, "Consistency, thou art a jewel," and many have repeated the statement as if it always expressed gospel truth. A man's teaching and practice should be consistent; that is, he should practice what he preaches, in so far as what he preaches can be practiced. **It is foolish for any man to try to make his teaching and practice consistent what he taught and practiced in the past.** A Christian should start with the high and holy purpose of learning all the truth he can, eliminating all errors as he finds them, and practicing every practicable thing he learns. If he conscientiously follows that course, he is still consistent, even though he finds it necessary to make changes in both teaching and practice. A man who follows that course never looks back to see if he is consistent with his past teaching and practice. To strive to be consistent with the past is not a jewel; it is a folly. **A man of sense changes when he finds that he is wrong; only a fool would refuse to change. And what is the matter with a man who thinks a man who makes radical changes is unreliable, unstable, and unsound? Many of the great men who adorned our holy religion made radical changes.** (All Emp. Mine, w.d.) (THE CHRISTIAN AND THE GOVERNMENT, pp. 46-47).