Hyper Focus Problem

Are we truly defending righteousness or are we a fraud? - Rom 2:19-24 - 19 if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, 20 an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— 21 you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? 22 You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? 23 You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? 24 As it is written: "GOD'S NAME IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU."

Jesus warns of the teachings of hyper focusing which is duplicity - Luke 12:1 - Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, saying: "BE ON YOUR GUARD AGAINST the yeast of the Pharisees, WHICH IS HYPOCRISY.

Hypocrites will <u>pick and choose</u> what they will obey from God- Matt 23:23 "<u>Woe to you</u>, scribes and Pharisees, <u>hypocrites</u>! For you <u>tithe mint and dill and cummin</u>, and <u>have neglected</u> the weightier provisions of the law: <u>justice and mercy and faithfulness</u>; but <u>these</u> are the things you should have done <u>WITHOUT NEGLECTING THE OTHERS</u>. NASU

Hypocrites Hyper Focus other people's issues without recognizing their own - Matt 7:1-5 - "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 YOU HYPOCRITE, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Hyper focusing is showing favoritism, which is a sin - James 2:1-9 - My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. 2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 HAVE YOU NOT DISCRIMINATED AMONG YOURSELVES AND BECOME JUDGES
WITH EVIL THOUGHTS? 5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not GOD CHOSEN THOSE WHO ARE POOR* in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? 6 But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong? 8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. 9 But IF YOU SHOW FAVORITISM, YOU SIN and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

With God, when focusing on one part, and ignoring others, is the same as failing all together - James 2:10-13 -10 For WHOEVER KEEPS THE WHOLE LAW AND YET STUMBLES AT JUST ONE POINT IS GUILTY OF BREAKING ALL OF IT. 11 For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. 12 SPEAK AND ACT as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

We allow our passions to be the excuse to hyperfocus, while passion is not an acceptable excuse by God - Gal 4:17-18 - 17 Those people are <u>zealous to win you over</u>, but <u>for no good</u>. What they want is to alienate you [from us], so that you may be zealous for them. 18 <u>It is fine to be zealous</u>, **PROVIDED** <u>the purpose is good, and to be so always and not just when I am with you</u>.

Destructive elements are; rejection of knowledge and ignoring of God's rules - Hos 4:6 my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. "Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.

*The special attention we are to show to the less fortunate is NOT counted as favoritism as long as it is based on God's command, NOT man's desire.

God hates all practices NOT SUPPORTED BY HIM that are based on bias (Racism, classism, sexism, elitism...)

- Prov 11:1 The Lord abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight.
- Prov 20:10 Differing weights and differing measures the Lord detests them both.
- Prov 20:23 The Lord detests differing weights, and dishonest scales do not please him.

Christians have a God given responsibility to the less fortunate -Prov 31:8-9 - 8 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9 Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

In a nutshell, we must judge righteously - John 7:24 Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment."

Following Jesus lead, judging righteously means we only give what God says - John 8:15-16 - 15 You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. 16 But if I do judge, my decisions are right, because I am not alone. I STAND WITH THE FATHER, who sent me.

We must serve God completely, without allowing any bias to play a part - 1 Tim 5:21 I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.