

Do Right? - cont.

what should have been one of their most treasured possessions, the knowledge to do right. Their enemies would be called together to witness their ruin (Amos 3:9); their strength would be drained from them (v. 11); what would be left of them and their children would be like what the lion leaves after devouring a sheep (v. 12); what was left of their religion would be profaned and destroyed (v.14); and their luxuries would mark them out for destruction (v.15).

Do you know to do right? Then treasure, practice, and pass down that knowledge, so your family, community, church and nation will not come to the sad state to which Israel fell. If you do not know to do right, then find out what is right from God and His word. Find out the consequences of doing right and wrong from God and His word. Then do what is right, and you will be salt and light to the world in which you live.

- Brent Paschall -

- Word of the Week -

“Goodness” (Gr. *agathosune*) refers to an inherent good in us that shows itself in kind acts and beneficent deeds to others. God shows his goodness to us, and we as Christians, are to be “full of goodness” (Rom. 5:4) and have a “desire of goodness” (2 Thess. 1:11). Let’s go out this week and show acts of goodness to others who may be surprised at what we do.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Guest Article: Do We Know to Do Right?

In Amos 3:10, God identifies a major problem with the nation of Israel: “They do not know to do right.” That was a serious charge. How could that possibly be the case in a nation that was founded on the knowledge of God and His ways?

In order to know to do right, we must know WHAT is right

If any nation should have known what was right, it was Israel. Before his death Moses reminded them how right and wrong had been revealed to them by God Himself:

Deuteronomy 4:11–14 (NKJV) — “Then you came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire to the midst of heaven, with darkness, cloud, and thick darkness. 12 And the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire....13 So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone. 14 And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that you might observe them in the land which you cross over to possess.

Their knowledge of right and wrong set them apart from other nations:

Deuteronomy 4:6–8 (NKJV) — 6 Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ 7 “For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as the LORD our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him? 8 And what great nation is there that has such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?

In order to know to do right, we must know the consequences of doing right or wrong

Just as Israel had been told what was right and wrong, they were told what would happen if they did what was right:

Deuteronomy 4:40 (NKJV) — You shall therefore keep His statutes and His commandments which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which the LORD your God is giving you for all time.”

They were also told what would hap-

pen if they did wrong:

Deuteronomy 4:25–28 (NKJV) — 25 “When you .. act corruptly and make a carved image in the form of anything, and do evil in the sight of the LORD your God to provoke Him to anger, 26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that you will soon utterly perish from the land which you cross over the Jordan to possess; you will not prolong your days in it, but will be utterly destroyed. 27 And the LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the LORD will drive you.

After being blessed with the information they needed, how did the nation of Israel reach the point where they no longer knew to do right? They forgot. They acted against what they knew and in doing so they lost the knowledge of it. They did not practice what they knew and they did not teach their children what they knew, until eventually there came a generation in Israel that did not know to do right.

The result

Amos told them what would happen as a result of their ignorance of