

Wrong is Wrong

Int.

1. Aim: To show that it is always wrong to do wrong.
2. Col. 3:25 "He that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons."
3. God has given us a standard for measuring right and wrong. We will answer to God for the decisions we make as to whether they are right or wrong.
4. People often try to defend or excuse their wrong doing.
5. But the Bible Teaches that WRONG is always WRONG !!!!

Discussion

I. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF ONE DOES NOT GET CAUGHT

- A. Some live by the philosophy "It's only wrong if you get caught."
 1. For example:
 - a. You can cheat on income tax and it is not wrong unless you get caught.
 - b. You can cheat at school on a test by copying from your friend and it is not wrong unless you get caught.
 - c. Shop lifting is wrong only if you get caught.
 - d. This belief is that you can do anything that is wrong and it is not wrong unless you get caught.
- B. That is not correct
 1. Wrong is wrong because it is a sin!!
 2. Sin is a violation of God's laws. - 1 John 3:4
 3. Whether any man catches us or not God knows.

4. Num. 32:32 "Be sure you sin will find you out."
5. Gal. 5:19-21 List of sins then He says: "they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." - Nothing said about getting caught - - when we do these things God knows them !

II. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF IT IS LEGAL

- A. Rom. 13:1-7
 1. Civil government is good and we must respect and obey it
 2. But sometimes the laws of the state conflict with the laws of God.
 3. For example:
 - a. It is legal to gamble
 - b. It is legal to have an abortion
 - c. It is legal to drink alcoholic beverages
 - d. It is legal to get a divorce for any cause
- B. Because a civil government has made these things legal does not make them right.
 1. We have a higher standard - God's word!
 2. Acts 5:29 "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."
 3. And in this book gambling is a form of stealing, abortion is murder, drinking is sinful and divorce for any cause other than fornication with remarriage is wrong.
 4. Wrong is wrong even if it is legal by the laws of the land.
 5. We live by the laws of God !!! His laws supersede the laws of the land!
 6. We are going to be judged by the Bible - not the legislature or congress - or judicial systems of our land.

III. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF IT IS FOR A "GOOD CAUSE"

A. Examples:

1. A civic organization conducts a raffle and asks people to buy a chance [gamble] because "It's for a good cause." Schools, needy family, research.
2. A dance is held to raise money for a child who needs an operation.
3. A beer manufacturer says, "Buy our products, and a portion of you money will go to fight MD."

B. These actions are wrong:

1. Rom. 3:8 NKJV "And not rather, as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose damnation is just."
2. It is not justification for doing wrong just because the profits may be used for a good cause.
3. Wrong is wrong because it is sin!!! It is never right to do wrong, even if the proceeds are for a just or good cause !

IV. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF SOMEONE ELSE CAUSES YOU TO DO IT

A. Adam tried to blame Eve for his sin, but he was still wrong and punished for his sin also.

B. Sometimes we bow to the pressure of others and do wrong, but we are still responsible.

1. 1 Cor. 15:33 "Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."
2. Ex. 23:2 "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do Evil"

V. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF IT IS DIFFICULT TO MAKE RIGHT

- A. Some wrongs are very hard to correct or undo
 - 1. An unscriptural divorce and remarriage with children involved
 - 2. An alcoholic who struggles to fight his desires
- B. We can encourage them to do right
 - 1. But we cannot give anyone the idea that if something is difficult to correct then they do not have to make any changes.
 - 2. Repentance requires that we cease from sin! We turn away from that sin
 - 3. Col. 3:5-12
 - a. Mortify --- all kinds of evil
 - b. Put off the old man
 - c. Put on the new man

VI. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF SOMEONE ELSE HAS DONE SOMETHING AS BAD OR WORSE

- A. Excuses we sometimes hear:
 - 1. Everyone's going to be there
 - 2. Everybody does it
 - 3. At least what I did was not as bad as what John did.
- B. That is no justification for us doing wrong.
 - 1. It is still wrong!!
 - 2. We are going to be judged by God's word not society
 - 3. Jn. 12:48b "the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."

VII. WRONG IS WRONG REGARDLESS OF WHO DOES IT

- A. Sometimes we will try to justify wrong doing if it is a close friend or relative involved.
- B. III. A gospel preacher held a meeting for a congregation and preached a sermon on divorce and remarriage. One man commented: "We need more preaching on this subject." Three years later the same preacher returned for another gospel meeting and preached the same lesson. This time the same brother expressed resentment and called the sermon harsh and unloving. The reason? His daughter had recently divorced and remarried for unscriptural reasons.
- C. But remember wrong is wrong regardless of who does it !!!
 - 1. God is no respecter of persons - Acts 10:34-35
 - 2. No justification is found for doing wrong regardless of who it is that violates God's law.

VIII. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF IT DOESN'T BOTHER YOU

- A. Some will say "I don't see anything wrong with it."
- B. I heard about a man who walked through a glass patio door. He didn't see it, but it was still there!
- C. Jer. 10:23 "O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; I t is not in man who walks to direct his own steps."

IX. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF IT APPEARS TO BE EXPEDIENT

- A. Caiaphas was willing for Jesus to be crucified even though he was a just and innocent man -- so that the whole nation would not perish. Jn. 11:49-50.
- B. A business man may think it is expedient to lie in order to make a big sale which will be of great financial benefit to his family.
- C. But wrong is wrong even if it seems like the only way we can gain something we think is needed.
- D. Rom. 12:17 b. "...provide things honest in the sight of all men."

X. WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF YOU DO NOT ADMIT IT

- A. Malachi condemned the people of his day for a number of reasons
 - 1. They did not admit their wrong and turn from them
 - 2. But they tried to bluff their way through
 - 3. They said, "Where have we done this?"
 - 4. Mal 1:6 2:17 3:7-8
- B. The fact that they tried to deny wrongdoing did not mean they were innocent. Lying about doing wrong is another wrong in itself.

CONCLUSION

- 1. Wrong is wrong regardless of these things.
- 2. We must be willing to face our wrongs and make them right!

3. Wrong is always wrong

- (1) Wrong is wrong even if you do not get caught
- (2) Wrong is wrong even if it is legal
- (3) Wrong is wrong even if it is for a good cause
- (4) Wrong is wrong even if someone else causes you to do it
- (5) Wrong is wrong even if it is difficult to make right
- (6) Wrong is wrong even if someone else has done just as bad or worse
- (7) Wrong is wrong regardless of who does it
- (8) Wrong is wrong even if it doesn't bother you
- (9) Wrong is wrong even if it appears to be expedient
- (10) Wrong is wrong even if you do not admit it

4. Wrong is always wrong. Right is always right. It is never right to do wrong. It is never wrong to do right.!

5. Do you need to correct some wrongs in your life?

6. The right thing to do is:

- a. Obey the Gospel - become a child of God
- b. Repent of any sin - confess and pray
- c. Repentance - change of heart producing a change of life - it is to admit "I have sinned"
not "If I have sinned"

7. Remember wrong is always wrong.