

## IS THERE RIGHT AND WRONG?

All of us make decisions and judgments for ourselves.

We all judge what, we believe, to be right or wrong. We are bold to say whether government is doing the right thing or not. We teach our children to make good, that is, right choices in life. Certainly, when laws are passed not to murder or steal we agree that it is wrong to violate these laws and right to keep them. Yet, many in our society today want to claim there is no objective right or wrong. What may be right for me may be wrong for you or what may be right for you may be wrong for me. But is this idea even realistic? That would mean, then, if I think it is right, for example, to kill someone, then no one may condemn or punish me for doing it because it is right for me!

There must be right and wrong! There must be a consistent, objective, rule according to which everyone can judge right and wrong! Otherwise, there would be chaos in society and in our own personal lives too!

But what is the rule or the standard that determines what is right and wrong? The Bible? Of course not! The Bible is some outdated book that a society of backward people used centuries ago. My parents read the Bible once in a great while to me when I was little. I can count on one hand the amount of times I read the Bible in my life. I consider myself to be a good person, able to determine right and wrong for myself. Oh really? From where do you determine what is right and wrong, if not the Bible? What is your standard according to which you judge all things?

We hear it most often in our world today: I let my own heart determine what is right and wrong. What I feel is right in a given situation I do. Other times, I may feel something is not right so I will not do it. Ah yes: feelings. They flip-flop from one day to the next. Feelings are as stable as water. Besides, what is it that influences me to feel the way I do in certain situations? There must be something that determines for me how I feel about certain things. Or again, as was said, maybe I may *feel* one way about killing someone and another person may *feel* another way. What makes my feelings right and his wrong? The heart (feelings) is not a good standard of truth.

Others will reason, I just listen to what society as a whole is telling me is right and wrong. I do not bother my head about it. I do not think about this question. I will go along with what the government tells me is truth, or what the media thinks, or what sociologists say. Is that truly who we want to determine truth for us? I read a bumper sticker just the other day. It said: "THINK! It is not illegal yet!" Do I want the government to take away my individual liberties? Do I really agree with much of the garbage that the media espouses? Do I honestly believe that sociologists have the answers? There is nothing more that these institutions would rather see than that everyone blindly follow them like a bunch of zombies.

Well, where does all this lead us? Back to the Bible. Why? Because the standard of all right and wrong is God. We *do* believe in God, right? Well, God created all things. He has the right, therefore, to determine for all His creatures what is truth. God tells us what is right and

wrong. Where does He tell us? In His Word. Jesus says, "Thy (God's) word is truth" (John 17:17). The Psalmist writes, "Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" (Psalm 119:89). The Word God speaks is found in the Bible. The Bible is word for word, the Word of God. There is where God speaks to us the truth.

It is time we read our Bibles again. There, God will teach us his ways and precepts. There, we will glean all the knowledge needed to determine for ourselves what is good and evil. We might be surprised to learn what we thought in the past was right, in God's eyes is truly wrong. In the process of reading the Bible, we will also learn about our sin and the need for salvation in the cross of Christ. Some know that already! Others still need to learn!

Try reading the Bible. It enlightens the eyes!

If you have any questions regarding this mailing or our church, please mail a note to the church address, call us at 920-326-5642, or email [pastor@randolphprc.org](mailto:pastor@randolphprc.org).

The Bible provides the revelation of God to His people. How do I know that the books of the Bible are the true and inspired Word of God? There are books that were excluded from today's Bible. Why were they excluded? Did they not have equal authority? What is the history of the Canon of Scriptures?

If you have these questions and other about the Bible, please reserve November 9, 2012 at 7:30 for the lecture "Canon of Scriptures" by Rev. Douglas Kuiper, where he will answer these questions and more.