

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW CAN HURT US

Proverbs 4: 14-19

14 Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil.
15 Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on. **16** For they do not sleep unless they have done evil; And their sleep is taken away unless they make someone fall. **17** For they eat the bread of wickedness, And drink the wine of violence. **18** But **the path of the just is like the shining sun**, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. **19 The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know** what makes them stumble.

1. Cain's Cover-up Genesis 4:9

Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?"
He said, "**I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?**"

2. Abimelech's Ignorance of his servants Genesis 21:25-26

25 Then Abraham rebuked Abimelech because of a well of water which Abimelech's servants had seized. **26** And Abimelech said, "**I do not know who has done this thing**; you did not tell me, nor had I heard of it until today."

3. Isaac's day of his death Genesis 27:2

Then he said, "Behold now, I am old. **I do not know the day of my death.**"

4. Jacob's boldness over Laban's "gods" Genesis 31:32

"With whomever you find your gods, do not let him live. In the presence of our brethren, identify what I have of yours and take it with you." For **Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them.**

5. Pharaoh's prelude to destruction Exodus 5:2

And Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? **I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.**"

6. Israel's impatience with God Exodus 32:23

"For they said to me, 'Make us gods that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, **we do not know what has become of him.**'"

7. Israel's wrong-doing replaced right-doing Amos 3:10

For **they do not know to do right**,' Says the LORD,
'Who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.'"

8. Judah's alienation from God Jeremiah 5:4

Therefore I said, "Surely these are poor. They are foolish;
For **they do not know the way of the LORD**,
The judgment of their God.

9. Chief priests and elders' challenge of Jesus' authority

Matthew 21:27 (verses 23-32)

23 Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?" **24** But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things: **25** The baptism of John--where was it from? From heaven or from men?" And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' **26** But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet." **27 So they answered Jesus and said, "We do not know."** And He said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. **28** But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' **29** He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. **30** Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. **31** Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you. **32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw it, you did not afterward relent and believe him.**

10. God's evaluation is final Matthew 25:12 (1-13)

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. **2** Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. **3** Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, **4** but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. **5** But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. **6** And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' **7** "Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. **8** And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' **9** But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' **10** And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. **11** Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' **12 But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'** **13** Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

11. There Is NO Excuse From Ignorance Today!

Acts 17:30-31

30 "Truly, **these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."