

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Refusal

"True ignorance is not the absence of knowledge, but the refusal to acquire it." – Karl Pepper

"He who asks with timidity invites a refusal." – Seneca

"You can't force a person to show you respect but you can refuse to be disrespected." – Unknown

"One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised." – Chinua Achebe

"The refusal to choose is a form of choice; disbelief is a form of belief." – Frank Barron

Throughout our lives there are many times that we refuse to do or say something. In fact, it happens a lot more than we realize.

In our courts of law, we hear of the cases where someone says, "I refuse to answer on the grounds that it may incriminate me," a right reinforced by the U.S. Supreme Court.

At times, as children, we have refused to give a complete answer because we thought it might get us in trouble, or for that matter, even our friends.

Many a man has been spurned when he has popped the question of marriage. And sometimes to great embarrassment. Earlier this year a young man popped the question on the big screen at Fenway Park in Boston only to get a NO answer.

There is, however, one refusal that would be a horrible mistake for any human being, and that is, to refuse to obey the Gospel. Yes, there can be rough consequences in life when people refuse to answer another human being, or the emotions of another person, etc. But to refuse God is to invite eternal consequences.

"And to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thess. 1:7-8). "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him" (Heb. 2:3). "See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven" (Heb. 12:25).

A wise person would do well to heed what God says. We must do our best to make sure that we never refuse the will of God. This is one refusal we must avoid!