`rights` X options

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"The weapons of our warfare are not physical, but are powerful in God for demolishing strongholds:[1] demolishing sophistries and every arrogance that sets itself up against the knowledge of God" (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). A sophistry is a false argument that is presented in such a way as to appear correct, and impressive, especially if not properly analyzed. Satan is in the business of purveying a number of sophistries designed to keep people from the knowledge of God, such as humanism, relativism, materialism, Freudianism, and so on.

Perhaps the most effective sophistry in recent times has been the theory of evolution, since it denies the very existence of God. If there is no God, there will be no Accounting, so you can do what you want! That theory has been stridently presented as science, even though it is scientifically impossible: absolutely, stupidly, ridiculously impossible! Chance working blindly with nothing could never produce anything; not in five billion, or trillion, or quadrillion years; not in an eternity of eternities. One of the spinoffs of that theory is the doctrine that people have all sorts of fictitious 'rights'.

My concern here is with the word 'right' when used as a noun. When used as an adjective its meaning is different: a right answer is a correct answer, as opposed to a wrong answer. As a noun, a 'right' refers to something to which one is legally entitled; to be legally entitled means it came from a competent authority. It is also used of something to which one is morally entitled, but who is competent to define morality? The Sovereign Creator is the only One who is competent to define morality, and He has done so in His written Revelation. In today's world most people reject that authority. Of course, a non-existent Creator can't do anything, but even those who acknowledge His existence generally reject any idea of objective authority. They have been taught to doubt the reliability of that written Revelation.

With reference to the New Testament, the dominant paradigm teaches that the original wording was lost at its beginning, there being no objective way of knowing what it may have been. I am prepared to demonstrate empirically that it was not lost, that the original wording has always existed in the knowledge of the Church, that we have it today and can know what it is.

The Sovereign Creator created the human being with soul, with a will, with the ability to choose. The corollary to that is that both God and man must deal with the consequences of the choices made. We are not robots. We are certainly influenced by the circumstances that surround us, but we are not controlled by them; we have genuine choice. Because we have genuine choice, we are responsible for the consequences of the choices that we make.

[1] The subject of biblical spiritual warfare is generally not well understood in Christian circles. Much of what has been written concerns defensive procedures, but this text speaks of demolishing strongholds (presumably the enemy's, since no one will want to destroy his own), that has to do with taking the offensive. For more on this subject the reader may consult my site: www.prunch.org.

Satan's sophistries are generally designed to convince people that there is no real responsibility, that there will be no final Accounting. If you have the 'right' to do something, then that something cannot be a crime or a sin. If you have the 'right' to do whatever you want to, then nothing that you do is wrong. **However**, the Sovereign Creator does not give anyone the right to do what He says is wrong. Not even Satan has that right. God gives us the **option** of doing evil, but we must take the consequences. We can know that something is evil by its bad consequences.

Nowadays, people are told that the poor have the 'right' to steal, that the oppressed have the 'right' to use violence; and there are places where crime is no longer punished. Since the vast majority of crimes are perpetrated by repeat offenders, the result is the destruction of civilization. Of course, there are ideologies that deliberately create and promote chaos as a prelude to taking over and imposing an absolute dictatorship. Then the bosses can live like nabobs, until the money runs out. There appears to be no limit to human perversity; the more so if aided and abetted by evil spirits.

So what can we do about it? We must denounce Satan's lies and promote God's Truth, in the public square.[2]

[2] For a discussion of our resources, please see the last four paragraphs of my article, 'God hates'.