

Willful Ignorance is Anti-Scientific

"See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" (Chinese Proverb)

Where should we expect to find the following quotation in the Bible?

*"We **punish** [people] for the very fact of being in ignorance **if** a man seems **responsible** for his own ignorance. Hence, the fine for offenses committed by drunks is double; after all, he can decide not to get drunk, and it is **this** that causes his ignorance. There is punishment too, when people are in ignorance of a point of law that should be known and is not difficult to know... "[Similarly] people themselves are responsible for [their carelessness] through living disorderly lives; they are responsible for being unjust or profligate, the former through evildoing, the latter through drinking and so on ... [Evidence of **not**] knowing that dispositions are attained by actually doing things, is a sign of a complete **ignoramus**."*

The source of this statement will be revealed later in this essay.

It is plainly deemed to be a badge of sophistication in our day to dismiss certain avenues of information from sources that are "judged" to be "beneath" or unworthy to merit one's consideration. Leftists indeed routinely parade themselves as authorities who are especially qualified to distinguish between valid and invalid propositions. Yet even "authorities" conceptually rely on standards that lie outside their own intuitions (which Christians regard as sinful). In matters of values (morality) the only broadly-acknowledged moral standard that is external to the human psyche is the Ten Commandments. In matters of science that standard is grounded in heeding an investigational *methodology* ("the scientific method"), while in a court of law truth is pursued in the form of a judgment "reached" by carefully witnessing contesting testimony. In every case then, it is expected that the relevant evidence is **first** assembled, and then scrutinized **prior** to discerning the question of its validity. Yet this is exactly what has been missing in Leftism's prejudicial, blanket, and ruthless dismissal of virtually every Conservative claim, specifically with respect to the present ongoing national political contest.

With respect to the Left the above general failure has two prongs to it. For example, the fact that the alphabet news agencies (**ABCA**) forbade broadcasting videos of the nightly riotous devastation but a part of the broader transgression. The other half entails the refusal of Leftists to investigate whether or not the Fox New footage was true. The reason cannot rest on innocent, naïve ignorance for the reason that ABCA news coverage included ongoing charges that Fox was portraying its objections as "*out-of-context exaggerations*"). In other words, the fact of the *omission* of the video feeds couldn't have succeeded except for the **willful ignorance** of Leftist's news audiences (**LNA**) who drank from only the ABCA trough. Both ABCA and LNA continue to be complicit in a major coverup that can be best summarized in the Chinese proverb, "*See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil.*"

This refusal to consider take consequential evidence into analytical consideration is a **gross intellectual error** in that it violates fundamental principles in both scientific and legal inquiry. This reality logically leads to the question of the source of the opening quotation, which is NOT the Bible. It is instead the recorded insights of one of the greatest of all philosophers, the pagan thinker, Aristotle in his section on ethics.¹ There is found the additional factor of the moral dimension to the right application of knowledge. One anonymous author states,

¹ H.H. Joachim, tr. Renford Bambrough, ed. Philosophy of Aristotle. "Ethics" Book III. (Mentor, 1963), pp. 323-4. Boldface mine.

“The phrase ‘see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil’ has come to mean something different than was originally intended. In the West, the proverb see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil means to turn a blind eye to something that is legally or morally wrong. In this case, a person who will see no evil, hear no evil, and speak no evil pretends that he has not witnessed wrongdoing, and therefore abdicates all responsibility in righting a wrong.”²

Aristotle and the Apostle Paul (Romans 1:18-32) agree with each other on the reality of a moral dimension (obligation) to not merely take notice of truth but also seek it out and indeed obey its ramifications. Aristotle’s teacher, Plato, preceded him regarded this matter of a binding obedience to truth by affirming in his “Republic” his commitment to “*follow the truth where it leads.*”³

² <https://grammarist.com/proverb/see-no-evil-hear-no-evil-speak-no-evil/>

³ H.D.P. Lee tr. Plato: The Republic. (Penguin, 1955), #394, p. 133.