

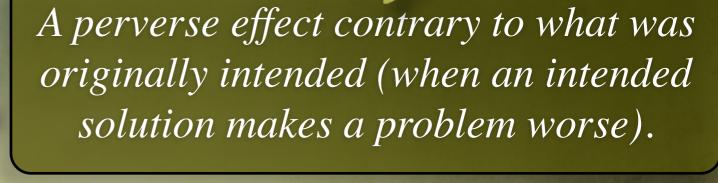
The Law of Unintended Consequences

To DEFINE

- → "Unintended consequences" are outcomes that are not the ones intended by a purposeful action.
- Unintended consequences can be roughly grouped into three types:
 - * A positive, unexpected benefit (usually referred to as luck, serendipity or a windfall).
 - * A negative, unexpected detriment occurring in addition to the desired effect of the policy or action.
 - * A perverse effect contrary to what was originally intended (when an intended solution makes a problem worse).

The Law of Unintended Consequences

To Define





- → Medication
- → Politics
- Child Discipline
- **♦**Career choice
- → Where to live



WE DO NOT WANT TO BE:

- * Deception [Eve] (Gen 3:1-19)
 - * Immediate interest, without considering long-term interests [Lot pitching tent towards Sodom] (Gen 13:11)
 - * Impatience [Abraham, Sarah & Hagar] (Gen 16:1-12)
 - * Worry / unbelief (Number 13,14)
 - * Secret pleasure [David & Bathsheba] (2 Sam 11; 12)
 - * Presumption [David & the ark] (1 Chron 13; 15)
 - * Error [Jeroboam's calves] (1 Kings 12:25-33)

The Law of Unintended Consequences LESSONS GAINED FROM THESE EXAMPLES The consequences of sin are not ONLY experienced by the ones who committed the sin-

- * Sincerity does not inoculate the sinner & others from the consequences of his/her sin
 - * Ignorance doesn't prevent one from experiencing the negative consequences of sin -
 - * Secrecy does not prevent others from being negatively effected by sin -

The Law of Unintended Consequences PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE:

- * Defend against deception (Heb 3:13; 2 Pet 3:17),
 - * Focus on long term, spiritual rewards instead of the passing pleasures of sin (Heb 11:25)
 - * Be patient wait on God's promises- (James 1:1-5)
 - * Don't worry / trust God (Mat 6:19-33)
 - * Realize we can't hide anything from God (Heb 4:13)
 - * Follow God's revealed will (Col 3:17; Jn 4:24)
 - * Humbly seek God's truth (Mat 6:33; 15:7-9)



We Cannot Act Contrary to God's Will and Expect a Positive Long-term Result. The Only Sure & Certain Course Is to Live Wholly in the Will of God.





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Prepared October 5, 2013
Preached October 6, 2013
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¹ Then David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader. ² And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you, and if it is of the LORD our God, let us send out to our brethren everywhere who are left in all the land of Israel, and with them to the priests and Levites who are in their cities and their common-lands, that they may gather together to us; ³ and let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul."

⁴ Then all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. ⁵ So David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor in Egypt to as far as the entrance of Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjath Jearim. ⁶ And David and all Israel went up to Baalah, to Kirjath Jearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God the LORD, who dwells between the cherubim, where *His* name is proclaimed.

⁷ So they carried the ark of God on a new cart from the house of Abinadab, and Uzza and Ahio drove the cart. 8 Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets. ⁹ And when they came to Chidon's threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled.

¹⁰ Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzza, and He struck him because he put his hand to the ark; and he died there before God. 11 And David became angry because of the LORD'S outbreak against Uzza; therefore that place is called Perez Uzza to this day. 12 David was afraid of God that day, saying, "How can I bring the ark of God to me?"