

**The Law of Unintended Consequences**

**To DEFINE**

➤ “Unintended consequences” - outcomes that are not the ones intended by an action.

**3 Types of Unintended Consequences**

1. A positive, unexpected benefit (*usually referred to as luck*)
2. A negative, unexpected detriment occurring in addition to the desired effect of the action.
3. A perverse effect contrary to what was originally intended (*when an intended solution makes a problem worse*).

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**To DEFINE**

*A perverse effect contrary to what was originally intended (when an intended solution makes a problem worse).*

- ◆ Medication
- ◆ Politics
- ◆ Career Choice

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Please separate from me. If you take the left, then I will go to the right. And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was **well watered everywhere** like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan, and Lot journeyed east.

- \* Deception - [Eve] - (Gen 3:1-19)
- \* Immediate interest, without considering long-term interests - [Lot pitching tent towards Sodom] (Gen 13:9)
- \* Impatience - [Abraham, Sarah & Hagar] - (Gen 16)
- \* Worry / unbelief - (Num 13-14)
- \* Secret pleasure - [David & Bathsheba] - (2 Sam 11-12)
- \* Presumption - [David & the ark] - (1 Chron 13)

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**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 and others from the consequences of their sin
- \* Ignorance doesn't prevent one from experiencing the negative consequences of sin
- \* Secrecy does not prevent others from being negatively effected by sin

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**PREVENTION IS WORTH**

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

- \* Defend against deception - (Heb 7:13)
- \* Focus on long term, spiritual rewards instead of the passing pleasures of sin - (Heb 11:25)
- \* Be patient - wait on God's promises - (Jas 1:1-5)
- \* Don't worry / trust God - (Matt 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 - (Jn. 8:32)


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*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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Hell will be full of people who did not intend to wind up there!

Where will you be for eternity?

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Hear	John 12:48
Believe	John 8:24
Repent	Luke 13:3
Confess	Matt. 10:32
Baptized	Mark 16:16
Faithful	Matt. 24:13