

Is ignorance bliss?

Thomas Gray

“Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College” 1742

“To each his sufferings: all are men,
Condemned alike to groan;
The tender for another's pain,
The unfeeling for his own.

Yet ah! why should they know their fate?

Since sorrow never comes too late,
And happiness too swiftly flies.

Thought would destroy their paradise.

No more; where ignorance is bliss,

'Tis folly to be wise.”

The Dangers of Ignorance

- **Brings forth sin**
 - **Brought rejection of Jesus – Acts 3:17, 2:37-38; Luke 23:34**
 - **Those who choose to be ignorant are condemned – Rom. 1:28, II Pet. 3:5**

The Dangers of Ignorance

- **Brings refusal to submit to righteousness of Christ**
 - **Create their own standard – Rom. 10:3**
 - **Refuse to repent – Rom. 2:4**
 - **Refuse significance of Baptism – Rom. 6:1-4**
 - **Refuse to change life – Eph. 4:18**
 - **Refuse to obey – I Pet. 1:14**

The Dangers of Ignorance

- **Results in thinking in human terms**
 - **There will be a resurrection –**
I Thess. 4:13
 - **There will be a second coming of Jesus –**
II Pet. 3:8

The Dangers of Ignorance

- **Many will claim ignorance in judgment...will not be an excuse**
 - **All are under new law, will be judged accordingly – Acts 17:23, 30**
 - **Sin takes place despite ignorance – I Tim. 1:13; Acts 3:19**
 - **Salvation based on knowing and obeying God's will...implies there is an absolute standard – Eph. 5:17, I Cor. 15:33-34**

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Alexander Pope

“An Essay on Criticism” 1711

**“A little Learning is a dang'rous Thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian Spring:
There shallow Draughts intoxicate the Brain,
And drinking largely sobers us again.”**

(In Greek mythology, it was believed that drinking from the Pierian Spring would bring you great knowledge and inspiration)