

You Don't Get to Avoid Consequences

There are consequences to EVERY choice.

This is something I've said more times than I can count. Even the right choice will have consequences, and they won't all be good ones.

Yet, so many times I see people justifying support for archaism by pointing out the consequences of choosing the other path. As if I'm pretending there won't be consequences if only you do the right thing. You don't get to magically avoid consequences just because you do what's right. That would be nice, but it's not reality.

There are consequences to being a libertarian.

There are consequences for being a bank robber.

There are consequences for working for the IRS.

Consequences are utterly inescapable, and you can't know for certain what the consequences will be. You can't make your decision based on concrete knowledge of what consequences will come from your choice, because you can't have concrete knowledge of every consequence you'll face.

If you comply with a counterfeit "law", there will be consequences.

If, instead, you *defy* the counterfeit "law"... there will be consequences. In the long run, you can't know which consequences will be worse. It's dependent on so many factors- including luck.

If you take this job, there will be consequences.

If you turn down the job there will be other consequences.

If you v*te, there will be consequences.

If you decline to participate in going through the motions of choosing (or rejecting) a particular master there will be consequences.

The best you can do, in my opinion, is to not do things that make you feel guilty- which make you feel like you can't live with yourself- and let the pieces fall where they may.

For me that means I choose to not archaize and I don't support those who do. As consistently as possible. And then deal with the consequences as they arise.