

If You Don't Know, It Could Be Dangerous!

Dick Brandt

While in the military service in the early '70s, there was a man in the squadron that owned several single-engine planes. And from time to time, we would get together and take a few short trips.

On one occasion, I was to fly the 1938 Luscombe. Now it was beautiful and well cared for, good electronics, (for the day) and good Cleveland heel brakes, well, it was just nice all the way around, even though you had to hand prop it to get it started.

Howey propped it, I got it started, taxied out, took off and was back on the ground in less than five minutes. The reason? The engine quit as soon as I was off the ground. Next, I banked left back over the grass, lined-up, and as I was about to put it on the ground, the engine started. That was a shock.

You can imagine I was a bit concerned. When I taxied back to the line, shut it down, got out, and said to Howey, "That was exciting." He said, "Oh, I forgot to tell you it doesn't have a fuel pump. So don't put the nose above the horizon. It is gravity fed. " With the new information, I was back in the air, with no other problems.

Now the point is this; the fact that **I didn't know** it didn't have a fuel pump **didn't make any difference**. Truth is truth; rather, you realize it or not. And the result is the same; rather, you know the truth or not. In the case with the little Luscombe, it didn't matter if I knew it or not, it still didn't have a fuel pump.

When the word of God is considered, it is the same. There are consequences for **not** knowing the truth just as if you know the truth **and chose not to obey**. Note two verses with me.

2 Thes. 1:6-8, "For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those **who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus**."

Luke 12: 47, "And that slave who **knew** his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive **many lashes**, but the one who did **not know it**, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will **receive but few**. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more."

The point is: rather we **KNOW** the truth and fail to put it into action, or we **DON'T** know the truth and **can't** put it into action, the consequence is the same.

**So let us be learners, and teacher, that all may be doers of
God's Word.**