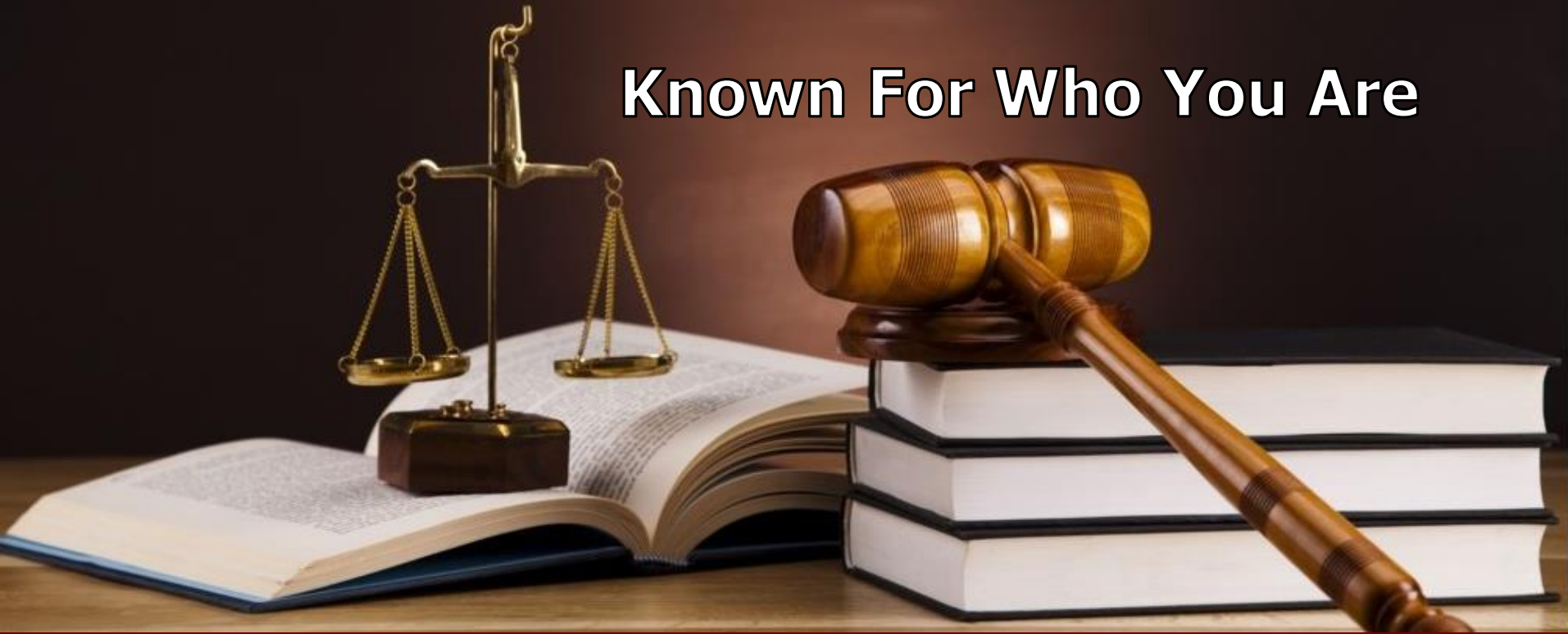


# Message

Known For Who You Are



Neal Parker

# Known For Who You Are

## ■ Hebrews 11:33-34

- “...who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.”



# 1858 Senate Bid

**"If it is decreed that I go down because of this speech, then let me go down linked to the truth."**

**- Abraham Lincoln  
16<sup>th</sup> President of U.S.**



# Convictions vs Preferences

**The First Amendment (Amendment I) to the United States Constitution prohibits the making of any law respecting an establishment of religion, ensuring that there is no prohibition on the free exercise of religion, abridging the freedom of speech, infringing on the freedom of the press, interfering with the right to peaceably assemble, or prohibiting the petitioning for a governmental redress of grievances.**

**It was adopted on December 15, 1791, as one of the ten amendments that constitute the Bill of Rights.**

# Convictions

- **A belief that is God-ordered is a conviction.**
  - **The Court says more: A conviction is not something we discover, but something we purpose. It is not something we just happen to run across, but something that is part of the very fiber of our personality.**
  - **The Court says our convictions will be purposed as a part of our way of life, beliefs that we are determined to perform and fulfill.**



# Convictions

- **A preference is a very strong belief.**
  - Though a preference may be a very strongly held belief, according to the Supreme Court, it is a belief that one will change under certain circumstances.
  - The Court says that a conviction is a belief you will not change. Why? What creates a conviction?
  - The Court's answer: A person must believe that his God requires it of him.



# Example of Conviction

## ■ Daniel 3:1-30

- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, (Hebrew names are Hananiah, Michael and Azariah) three young men defying the mighty King Nebuchadnezzar and thrown into a fiery



# Example of Conviction

## ■ Daniel 3:1-30

- Unswerving conviction of the God of the Bible
- Confidence in the God who is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do
- Faith as revealed by their reliance upon the only One who had the power to deliver them from evil.





# Are We Examples of Conviction?

## ■ Romans 5:1-5

- We may not always understand the purpose of our trials, but God simply asks that we trust Him—even when it is not easy. Job, who endured incredible pain, almost insurmountable agony, and suffering, was still able to say, “Though He may slay me, yet will I hope in Him” (Job 13:15).



# Example of Conviction

## ■ Daniel 3:1-30

- As did these three men, so should we in revealing to the world
  - A higher power
  - A greater purpose
  - A superior morality, than the world in which we live.



# Are We Examples of Conviction?

## ■ II Corinthians 4:16-18

- “Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal”



# Convictions vs Preferences

- The determining factor or guidelines that judges and lawyers use to pursue the **difference between a conviction and a preference**, in a court of law, in the “body of work” / lifestyle.
- So is some cases, when the Supreme Court is left with solving the dilemma of discovering how could it determine whether a person was telling the truth about his convictions. The answer was actually very simple. Though a person may be an artful liar on the witness stand, **the truth can always be found in his lifestyle.**

# Are We Examples of Conviction?

## ■ James 2:18, 26

- Testimony of beliefs without the works to prove them is invalid.
- Preferences may be very strong beliefs, but those beliefs / preferences may be changed under certain circumstances, they do not pass the muster to be considered a conviction, in the court of law.



# Are We Examples of Conviction?

## ■ Hebrews 10:38-39

- The pressure to change our beliefs can come from peer pressure, family pressure, fear of lawsuits / jail time, financial ruin and even the fear of physical death.
- As definitions of Faith and Conviction, we must withstand the muster of man and Jesus Christ's Judgment of our lives.

