



A BATTLE YOU CANNOT WIN!

JUNE 30, 2025

ACTS 9:5 NKJV – (5) And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. **It is hard for you to kick against the goads.**”

“It is hard for you to kick against the pricks” was a Greek proverb, but it was also familiar to the Jews and anyone who made a living in agriculture. An ox goad was a stick with a pointed piece of iron on its tip used to prod the oxen when plowing. The farmer would prick the animal to steer it in the right direction. Sometimes the animal would rebel by kicking out at the prick, and this would result in the prick being driven even further into its flesh. In essence, the more an ox rebelled, the more it suffered. Thus, Jesus’ words to Saul on the road to Damascus: “It is hard for you to kick against the pricks.”

There is a powerful lesson in the ancient Greek proverb. We, too, find it hard to kick against the goads. Solomon wrote, “Stern discipline awaits him who leaves the path” (**Proverbs 15:10**). When we choose to disobey God, we become like the rebellious ox—driving the goad deeper and deeper. “The way of the unfaithful is hard” (**Proverbs 13:15**). How much better to heed God’s voice, to listen to the pangs of conscience! By resisting God’s authority, we are only punishing ourselves.

SCRIPTURE
PROVERBS 13:15

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

We all face battles daily, but with God leading the way, our enemies will be defeated and we will become winners in Christ, remember the battle is not yours but the Lord’s.