



TRAFFIC COURT - NO RIGHT ON RED



Sign: No Right on Red
Characters: Show Host, Bailiff, Judge, Freddie Ready, and Officer Con Viction.
Props/Costumes: Judge can wear a graduation gown, gavel
Theme: Obedience
Verse: "Be careful to obey all these regulations I am giving you, so that it may always go well with you and your children after you, because you will be doing what is good and right in the eyes of the LORD your God."
(Deut. 12:28 NIV)

Script

Show host: Welcome to Judge (*Judy*) Traffic Court. On tonight's show, our defendant, Frederika Ready, is accused of making an illegal right turn when the light was red. Now let's join our show.

Bailiff: All rise. The (*date*) session of Traffic Court is now in session, the Honorable Judge (*Judy*) presiding. (*Judge walks in*) You may be seated. Your Honor, our plaintiff today is Frederika Ready.

Freddie: You can call me Freddie...

Judge: I will call you Ms. Ready. You have been charged with making an illegal right turn while the light was red. The first and most important question is: Was there any sign at this particular intersection, Ms. Ready?

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor. The sign said "No Right on Red" - once I got close enough to read it.

Judge: I know you have a road map, Ms. Ready. Have you read the rules of the road in the travel guide?

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor, I even have one of those inserts in the back of my guide that tells you how to read the whole travel guide in a year...except it took me two years.

Judge: I see. In that case, can I assume that you are aware of the meaning of the sign that says "No right on red"?

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor.

Judge: Okay...you saw the sign, you understood the sign, but chose to ignore it?!!

Freddie: (*indignant*) I didn't ignore it, Your Honor. I am well aware that those "No right on red" signs will occasionally be posted on certain more dangerous intersections. But my night driving eyesight is so weak and that corner was particularly dark that evening.

Judge: Are you now stating that you were driving at night and didn't see the sign? You do realize that on the Road to Eternal Life you are to be driving in the light as He is in the Light?

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor. But I felt that my circumstances required traveling at night—just this once. I did see the sign—but I first thought that it said "Right on Red". By the time I could read the "NO", I was already into the intersection, and I figured I might as well go ahead and make the turn. I didn't see any cars coming. It was safe.

Judge: Ms. Ready, your first big mistake was that you were driving in the darkness. Don't you realize that God is light and in Him is no darkness? You had separated yourself from God by driving in the darkness. Your second mistake was continuing on your own path, even after you realized what the sign said. If the sign says "No right on red"—it doesn't mean that you can take a right on red and continue on your own way if **YOU** determine it to be safe. Those signs were put there for your protection. You were in the dark—how could you see the dangers? You recall the statute under Deuteronomy chapter 12 verse 28 which begins, "Be careful to obey all these regulations I am giving you, so that it may always go well with you..."

Freddie: Oh, I'm a very considerate driver, Your Honor. I really try to obey all the signs I see.

Judge: Do you need a definition for the word "all", Ms. Ready? "All" means all!

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor, I understand... Are you finished with me? May I leave now?
(starts to move away)

Judge: No, you may not leave now. Officer Con Viction, my reports says that you stopped Ms. Ready immediately after she made the illegal turn?

Officer Con Viction: Yes, Your Honor. Ms. Ready has been making a habit lately of traveling at night, so I make it a point to stay close by, and divert her from the Road to Destruction when I can...

Freddie: The Road to Destruction!! I don't want to go there!

Judge: Ms. Ready, I am really hoping that you understand that your "night blindness" has so far been a protection for you—God wants us to be innocent concerning evil. BUT, you have been called out of darkness, into His marvelous light. You have no business driving in the dark. The darkness actually will cause permanent blindness if you continue driving in the dark.

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you, Your Honor. May I step down now? *(again tries to leave)*

Judge: No, you may not! Now, I want to address this other problem. Normally, it is legal to make a right turn on a red light, if you watch carefully. However, when there is a sign at the intersection, it is a warning of danger. Please know THAT would be the worst time to make a decision on your own. God has put a warning in your life, and it is in an area where you particularly need to pay attention. An intersection with a warning can indicate this to be an area of weakness for you.

Freddie: Yes, Your Honor. I've learned something here. Now may I go? *(tries to leave)*

Judge: *(exasperated)* NO!! I can see where you would have a hard time stopping at a "No Right on Red" sign! No, this court is not finished with you. Officer, would you like to tell Ms. Ready about the trap she avoided by immediately pulling over when you put your lights on?

Officer Con Viction: Your Honor, Freddy Ready would have gotten trapped in the sin of pride and self-promotion had she continued. Many are spinning their wheels there right now. God put that sign in her life to keep her from encountering a temptation that she would not have recognized and was too weak to face. God wanted her to stop, and get strengthened, and hear from Him, before making this turn. The light would not have turned green until Ms. Ready was actually ready to face the temptation.

Freddie: I can't believe it!

Judge: Believe it, Ms. Ready. Officer Con Viction always speaks the truth in love.

Freddie: *(to Officer Conviction)* Thank you! *(to Judge)* Your Honor, I now understand that I need to obey the signs all the time just because the rules of the road say so. The signs—even the ones telling me to stop—are there for my benefit. Sometimes stopping is for my benefit.

Judge: You seem to be getting the gist of things now Ms. Ready. Officer Con Viction, do you have anything you would like to add?

Officer Con Viction: Yes, Your Honor. I would just like to add that Prov 19:16 states "He who obeys instructions guards his life, but he who is careless of his ways will die."

Freddie: OK, OK. I get the picture. I will obey. Is that all, now?

Judge: I'm not finished Ms. Ready. You will find that it is much more fulfilling to live a life that honors God. If you obey His statutes, beginning with driving only in the Light, you will find the road easier to travel. This one time, Ms. Ready, the court is prepared to show mercy as long as you are ready, Freddie, to repent and make a fresh start.

Freddie: *(humbled)* Yes, Your Honor, I am.

Judge: Court is adjourned. *(bangs gavel)* *(to Freddie)* NOW you may step down.

Show host: The truth is that sometimes God asks us to stop or wait at a junction in our life when, in our own eyes, it seems safe for us to go. He has His wise and perfect reasons for doing that. Our job is to be obedient and accept His counsel, realizing that we usually think we are right in our own eyes--and the Bible says that the way of a fool is right in his own eyes!