

3. According to any rule of art.

You with strict discipline instructed *right*.

Roscommon.

4. According to fact or truth; as, to tell a story *right*.

5. In a great degree; very; as *right* humble; *right* noble; *right* valiant. [*Obsolescent or inelegant.*]

6. It is prefixed to titles; as in *right* honorable; *right* reverend.

RIGHT, is used elliptically for *it is right*, *what you say is right*, *it is true*, &c.

Right, cries his lordship.

Pope.

On the *right*, on the side with the right hand.

RIGHT, *n.* Conformity to the will of God, or to his law, the perfect standard of truth and justice. In the literal sense, *right* is a straight line of conduct, and *wrong* a crooked one. *Right* therefore is rectitude or straightness, and perfect rectitude is found only in an infinite Being and his will.

2. Conformity to human laws, or to other human standard of truth, propriety or justice. When laws are definite, *right* and *wrong* are easily ascertained and understood. In arts, there are some principles and rules which determine what is *right*. In many things indifferent, or left without positive law, we are to judge what is *right* by fitness or propriety, by custom, civility or other circumstances.

3. Justice; that which is due or proper; as, to do *right* to every man.

Long love to her has borne the faithful knight,
And well deserv'd, had fortune done him *right*.

Dryden.

4. Freedom from error; conformity with truth or fact.

Seldom your opinions err,

Your eyes are always in the *right*.

Prior.

5. Just claim; legal title; ownership; the legal power of exclusive possession and enjoyment. In hereditary monarchies, a *right* to the throne vests in the heir on the decease of the king. A deed vests the *right* of possession in the purchaser of land. *Right* and possession are very different things. We often have occasion to demand and sue for *rights* not in possession.

6. Just claim by courtesy, customs, or the principles of civility and decorum. Every man has a *right* to civil treatment. The magistrate has a *right* to respect.

7. Just claim by sovereignty; prerogative. God, as the author of all things, has a *right* to govern and dispose of them at his pleasure.

8. That which justly belongs to one.

Born free, he sought his *right*.

Dryden.

9. Property; interest.

A subject in his prince may claim a *right*.

Dryden.

10. Just claim; immunity; privilege. All men have a *right* to the secure enjoyment of life, personal safety, liberty and property. We deem the *right* of trial by jury invaluable, particularly in the case of crimes. *Rights* are natural, civil, political, religious, personal, and public.

11. Authority; legal power. We have no *right* to disturb others in the enjoyment of their religious opinions.

12. In the *United States*, a tract of land; or a share or proportion of property, as in a mine or manufactory.

13. The side opposite to the left; as on the *right*. Look to the *right*.

To *rights*, in a direct line; straight. [*Unusual.*]

Woodward.

2. Directly; soon.

To set to *rights*, } to put into good order; to
To put to *rights*, } adjust; to regulate what is
out of order.

Bill of rights, a list of rights; a paper containing a declaration of rights, or the declaration itself.

Writ of right, a writ which lies to recover lands in fee simple, unjustly withheld from the true owner.

Blackstone.

RIGHT, *v. t.* To do justice to; to relieve from wrong; as, to *right* an injured person.

Taylor.

2. In *scamen's* language, to *right* a ship, is to restore her to an upright position from a *careen*.

To *right* the *helm*, to place it in the middle of the ship.

RIGHT, *v. i.* To rise with the masts erect, as a ship.

RIGHTED, *pp.* Relieved from injustice; set upright.

RIGHTEN, *v. t.* [*Sax. gerihtan.*] To do justice to. *Obs.*

RIGHTEOUS, *a. ri'chus.* [*Sax. rihtwise*; *right* and *wise*, manner, as in *otherwise*, *lengthwise.*]

1. Just; accordant to the divine law. *Applied to persons*, it denotes one who is holy in heart, and observant of the divine commands in practice; as a *righteous* man. *Applied to things*, it denotes consonant to the divine will or to justice; as a *righteous* act. It is used chiefly in theology, and applied to God, to his testimonies and to his saints.

The *righteous*, in Scripture, denote the servants of God, the saints.

2. Just; equitable; merited.

And I thy *righteous* doom will bless.

Dryden.

RIGHTEOUSLY, *adv. ri'chusly.* Justly; in accordance with the laws of justice; equitably; as a criminal *righteously* condemned.

Thou shalt judge the people *righteously*. Ps. lxxvii.

RIGHTEOUSNESS, *n. ri'chusness.* Parity of heart and rectitude of life; conformity of heart and life to the divine law.

Righteousness, as used in Scripture and theology, in which it is chiefly used, is nearly equivalent to holiness, comprehending holy principles and affections of heart, and conformity of life to the divine law. It includes all we call justice, honesty and virtue, with holy affections; in short, it is true religion.

2. *Applied to God*, the perfection or holiness of his nature; exact rectitude; faithfulness.

3. The active and passive obedience of Christ, by which the law of God is fulfilled. Dan. ix.

1. Justice; equity between man and man. Luke i.

5. The cause of our justification.

The Lord our *righteousness*. Jer. xxiii.

RIGHTER, *n.* One who sets right; one who does justice or redresses wrong.

RIGHTFUL, *a.* Having the right or just claim according to established laws; as

the *rightful* heir to a throne or an estate.

2. Being by right, or by just claim; as a *rightful* lord; *rightful* property; *rightful* judge.

3. Just; consonant to justice; as a *rightful* cause; a *rightful* war.

Prior.

RIGHTFULLY, *adv.* According to right, law or justice; as a title *rightfully* vested.

RIGHTFULNESS, *n.* Justice; accordance with the rules of right; as the *rightfulness* of a claim to lands or tenements.

2. Moral rectitude.

But still although we fail of perfect *rightfulness*. [*Not usual.*]

Sidney.

RIGHT-HAND, *n.* The hand opposite to the left, usually the strongest, most convenient or dextrous hand, and hence its name in other languages, as well as in ours.

RIGHTING, *ppr.* Doing justice to; setting upright.

RIGHTLY, *adv.* According to justice; according to the divine will or moral rectitude; as duty *rightly* performed.

2. Properly; fitly; suitably; as a person *rightly* named.

3. According to truth or fact; not erroneously. He has *rightly* conjectured.

4. Honestly; uprightly.

Shak.

5. Exactly.

Thou didst not *rightly* see.

Dryden.

6. Straightly; directly. [*Not in use.*]

Ascham.

RIGHTNESS, *n.* Correctness; conformity to truth or to the divine will, which is the standard of moral rectitude. It is important that a man should have such persuasion of the *rightness* of his conscience as to exclude rational doubt.

South.

2. Straightness; as the *rightness* of a line.

Bacon.

RIGID, *a.* [*Fr. rigide*; *It. Sp. rigido*; *L. rigidus*, from *rigeo*; *Gr. πυγος*, to be stiff; *πυγος*, stiff, whence *L. frigeo*, *frigidus*;

Eth. 470, Heb. רָגַם to be still, to be stiff or rigid. Class Rg. No. 3. 27. The primary sense is probably to strain or extend.]

1. Stiff; not pliant; not easily bent. It is applied to bodies or substances that are naturally soft or flexible, but not fluid. We never say, a *rigid* stone or *rigid* iron, nor do we say, *rigid* ice; but we say, an animal body or limb, when cold, is *rigid*. *Rigid* is then opposed to *flexible*, but expresses less than *inflexible*.

2. Strict in opinion, practice or discipline; severe in temper; opposed to *lax* or *indulgent*; as a *rigid* father or master; a *rigid* officer.

3. Strict; exact; as a *rigid* law or rule; *rigid* discipline; *rigid* criticism.

4. Severely just; as a *rigid* sentence or judgment.

5. Exactly according to the sentence or law; as *rigid* execution.

RIGIDITY, *n.* [*Fr. rigidité*; *L. rigiditas.*]

1. Stiffness; want of pliability; the quality of not being easily bent.

Arbuthnot.

2. A brittle hardness, as opposed to *ductility*, *malleability* and *softness*.

Encyc.

3. Stiffness of appearance or manner; want of ease or airy elegance.

Wotton.

RIGIDLY, *adv.* Stiffly; unpliantly.