Decisions, Decisions!



Joshua 24:14-15

Joshua 24:15

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

- Joshua says for some of them, to allow God to "get in their way of living their lives was wrong!" (if it seems evil for some of you to serve God, then choose your own way)
- Joshua also says that the decisions they would make may or may not be the ones their parents or their neighbors made
- But Joshua says that he had made his decision regardless of the other Israelites' plans (he and his family would follow God)
- Therefore, choosing Christianity is a serious and deliberate choice that God wants you to make (weighing the alternatives)

#1 As Human Beings We Are Free To Choose!

Look At What God Says Through Moses To The Israelites And To Us!

"See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction ... Now choose life, so that you and your children may live." Deuteronomy 30:19

- God says this is what your life is about—Choice
- You can go right or left, receive me or reject me, honor me or despise me—It's Your Choice!
- All of us in general are born with the opportunity of choice
- AND WE LIKE CHOICE! (Coke, Pepsi, Caffeine Free, Sugar or Artificially Sweetened) (Beef, Pork, Fish, Chicken, Veggies)
- Choices of Automobiles (Sports cars, Luxury cars, Sports utility automobiles, Trucks) (Houses, Clothes, Neck Ties, Earrings, Tattoos)

Some Choices May Be Inconsequential and Others Deadly

Eye Candy! (looks like Sweet Tarts)

Fentanyl! - 50x stronger than heroin, 100x stronger than morphine





#2 You Are Not Free Not To Choose!

- At the end of Sunday Sermons I usually make a plea to except Jesus Christ through Faith, Repentance, Confession, and Baptism as the Bible teaches
- That's usually when people show or don't show the decision that they have made
- If you are not a Christian, you do make a decision for Christ at that time. You might say, "no I don't make a decision then!"
- But Christ says that you can't be neutral with Him:
 - "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever gathers not with me scatters." Matthew 12:30
- The point Christ is making: In this "Holy War" with Satan, if you choose not to choose, YOU JUST CHOSE!

To Try To Remain Neutral In This World Of Sin Is To Declare Your Leader!

Matthew 12:30 (Whoever is not with me is against me)

Jesus Basically Says:

If You're Not Holding Me Up, You're Dropping Me!

If You're Not Owning Me, You're Disowning Me!

Matthew 10:32-33

If You're Not Claiming Me, You're Disclaiming Me!

If You're Not Living For Me, You Are Crucifying Me!

Hebrews 6:6 (the sin of Apostasy - the rejection of Christ
by the Christian)

There is no, "Middle of the Road!" with Jesus



This man chose to walk across this bridge, which he is free to do

But if he chooses to step out in "mid-air" and pretend he is a bird, HIS CHOICE WILL CHOOSE FOR HIM!

He will not break the law of gravity by choosing, but demonstrate it!

Why? Because he is not free to choose the consequences of his choice

You Are Not Free to Choose all of the Consequences of Choice!

- A couple may say,
 "we're pregnant and
 we've decided not to
 have the baby."
- I would argue that the choice <u>at that</u> <u>point</u>, is whether to have a <u>live baby</u> or a <u>dead baby</u>. YOU ARE HAVING A BABY!
- Medical Abortion is the <u>consequence of a</u> <u>choice</u> that has ALREADY BEEN MADE!



95% of Babies Put to Death (Aborted) in the United States are NOT Because the Mother's Medical Health is Threatened, Rape, or the Baby Has a Life Threatening Defect.

In the Overwhelming Majority of Cases, It's the Consequence of a Choice Made for a Live Baby That Has No Voice In the Matter!

Who Speaks For The Unborn?

Beware: Some Choices Have Negative Cumulative Consequences

- Where Lot, Abraham's nephew, chose to live, cost him his family, Genesis 13. Think seriously about worship geography (it can influence future generations)
- The women Solomon chose to marry led him away from God, 1 Kings 11:1-3. Who you choose to marry can be pivotal to your salvation. Remember it's God 1st and you 2nd, and not the reverse.
- The love that Ananias and Sapphira—who were married Christians—had for money, caused them to lose their lives at a church service, Acts 5
- The disciple Demas chose the world's influence over Christ's influence and deserted the apostle Paul when he needed him, 2 Timothy 4:10; 1 John 2:15 (what you can feel, see, and keep)

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38