

Making the Best Choice

Deuteronomy 30:11-20

What are some of the most important choices you will ever make? Salvation. Spouse. College. House. Job. Children. Cars. Clothes. Boyfriend/Girlfriend. All of these require that we know something about what we are deciding. We can only make informed decisions if we have been informed with the appropriate information. One of my pet peeves is to be forced to make a decision without having all the facts. Sometimes that is necessary, but in others it isn't. Forty years ago, my father died on Christmas day. However, before he died, I had the privilege of spending about a year and a half, listening to him talk about life and how to live in general. It was a great time. I learned so much. Moses did the same thing with Joshua. Just as he was about to die, he told Joshua what God wanted him to do. Yet, God did not force Joshua to choose. (Joshua 24:15) God never does. We must make that choice ourselves. A good friend once said, "Our lives add up to the sum total of our choices". So far, how is your life adding up? Let's see what God says about knowing what to do.

1. **We can know and do what God wants us to do.** Vs. 11-14

God's will for us is not a mystery. It is not something that makes us go on a treasure hunt to find. So often I hear people say that they finally discovered God's will for their lives. It is as if they had no clue before, and the light just went on. I think for me, it was more of making up my mind to do it. God tells us it is not too hard for us to do His will, nor is it beyond our reach. How often do we tell ourselves that we can't do what God has called us to do because we are not skilled or proficient in that area. Look at Moses. **Ex. 4:10** Moses said, "I can't speak, I can't talk to Kings, but here am I, send Aaron." Don't we do that? God revealed His will to Israel through three primary ways: (1) **His word; written word, the scriptures; (2) teachers, prophets; (3) their hearts; David said, "Thy word have I hidden in my heart. . . "** As they read, spoke, and lived the word of God, it became a part of them and they learned to know God's will. **Eph. 1:7-9** We must do the same.

2. **We must choose between life and death.** Vs. 15-16 It is interesting that here God presents Israel with the choice of only life or death. Not the ability to return as a grasshopper or any other creature. Shirley McClain would be in trouble. This is simple stuff. Life or Death. Which is it? After all, isn't this the only real everlasting choice we have to make? No other choice will affect eternity as this one. Choosing God and his love. Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life, and have it more abundantly." **John 3:36; 11:25** Joshua made this choice, in **Josh. 24:15.**

3. **We face God's judgment when we choose wrongly.** Vs. 17-18
God will always judge the unrighteousness of people. It is against His nature to ignore it. He will bring to judgment sooner or later. David complained about the timing of this and God told David to be patient. They would get it in the end. **Ps. 37:1-2**
4. **We are encouraged to choose life.** Vs. 19-20 Life in Christ is the only sure thing on this earth. Remember that God said that this was not too hard nor was it out of reach. We can live for God and be successful. **Luke 22:42**

Is there anything you would like to change about the direction of your life today? Is your life headed in the direction you thought it would? Is the sum total of your choices adding up to a life of holiness and Godliness? Do people see a life they want to copy? If not, why not? What is it that you need to change today to make your life different? Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Is it time to do something different? Try surrendering to God and committing to obeying Him. Choose life today! You can do it.