





We Must Make A Choice

Good or Evil



**I. Test All Things; Hold
Fast What Is Good.**

A. We Must Distinguish Good From Evil

- There are many forms of evil. We must use God's Word to "test" everything

22 Abstain from every form of evil. / Thess.5

- Do we know the difference between good and evil?

A. We Must Distinguish Good From Evil

B. Joshua and The Gibeonites *Jos.9:1-15*

- God had clearly told Israel not to make covenants with people of the land *Deut.7:2*
 - The Gibeonites pretended to come from far away: bread, wine skins, clothes, etc.

14 Then the men of Israel took some of their provisions; but they did **not ask counsel of the LORD.**

Jos.9

A. We Must Distinguish Good From Evil

B. Joshua and The Gibeonites

- God had clearly told Israel not to make covenants with people of the land *Deut.7:2*
 - The Gibeonites pretended to come from far away: bread, wine skins, clothes, etc.

15 So Joshua made peace with them, **and made a covenant with them to let them live**; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.

A. We Must Distinguish Good From Evil

B. Joshua and The Gibeonites

- **They didn't ask and got involved in evil**
 - **Sins not specified: gambling, marijuana, cocaine, nicotine, and abortion**
 - **Not all these things have to be mentioned specifically for them to be wrong**
 - **Bible principles condemn these things!**

**II. Exercise Senses To Discern
Good From Evil *Heb.5:12-14***



A. Many Read With No Comprehension

- **They never exercised their senses by using scripture – they are “unskilled”**
 - **Why do we sometimes have difficulty working a brand new item?**
 - **Often we don't know how to operate it and refuse to read the directions!**

A. Many Read With No Comprehension

B. Many Are Untrained In Using The Bible

- **Various types of saints are untrained**
 - **Some new converts are untrained because they haven't had time to study *Rom.15:1***
 - **Certain "mature" are unskilled because they fail to read their Bibles *Deut.30:12-15***
 - **A person's faithfulness is tied to his fervency of reading God's scriptures!**

A lit candle is positioned on the right side of the image, casting a warm, yellow glow. The candle is set against a dark, textured background that appears to be a piece of fabric or paper. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the candle being the primary light source.

**III. Abhor What Is Evil. Cling
To What Is Good.**

A. Christians Must Despise Wickedness

- Godly people learn to hate sin!
 - Moses was livid when he saw the people worshipping a golden calf *Ex.32:19-35*

19 So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he **saw the calf** and the dancing. So Moses' **anger became hot**, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.

Ex.32

A. Christians Must Despise Wickedness

- Godly people learn to hate sin!
 - Moses was livid when he saw the people worshipping a golden calf *Ex.32:19-35*

20 Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and **ground it to powder**; and he scattered it on the water and **made the children of Israel drink it.** *Ex.32*

- Israel learned the bitter taste of sin!

A. Christians Must Despise Wickedness

- Jesus angrily cleansed the temple!

12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and **drove out all** those who bought and sold in the temple, and **overturned the tables** of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

13 And He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘**den of thieves.**’” *Matt.21*

- Paul and Barnabas were upset *Acts 14:15*

A. Christians Must Despise Wickedness

B. Cling To What Is Good

- **God's people truly love what is good**
 - **Being a "lover" of good is one of the qualifications of an elder *Titus 1:8***
 - **Is faith good?**
 - **Is a happy home good?**
 - **Is moral purity good?**

A photograph of a dense forest with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a dappled light effect on the ground. The text is overlaid on the lower-left portion of the image.

**IV. Wise In Good; Simple
Concerning Evil**

A. We Are To Have An Innocent Nature

- **What does it mean to be “streetwise?”**
 - **One who knows what is “out there” among worldly people *Col.3:5-9***
 - **Prostitutes, drugs, gangs, drunks, etc.**
 - **An innocent nature is not aware of all the ugly sins of the wicked *Eph.5:11-13***
 - **“I don’t know what marijuana smells like”**

A. We Are To Have An Innocent Nature

B. Don't Get Wrapped Up In Evil

- Without being naïve we must not learn evil “inside and out” *Deut.12:29-30*

30 “Take heed to yourself that you are **not ensnared to follow them**, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you **do not inquire after their gods**, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.’” *Deut.12*

A. We Are To Have An Innocent Nature

B. Don't Get Wrapped Up In Evil

- Without being naïve we must not learn evil “inside and out”

11 And have **no fellowship** with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

12 For it is **shameful** even **to speak** of those things which are done by them in secret. *Eph.5*

- Without being naïve we must not learn evil “inside and out” *Prov.4:23-27*

Why Should We Be So Concerned?

28 “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice

29 And come forth - those who have **done good**, to the resurrection of life, and those who have **done evil**, to the resurrection of condemnation.”

Jn.5