

MAKING GOOD CHOICES

Introduction

- 1) We are faced with choices every day: what clothes to wear, what to eat for breakfast, where to buy gas, time decisions, school decisions, work decisions, family decisions, etc.
- 2) Advertising and games: “Choosy Mothers Choose JIF” “Let’s Make a Deal!”
- 3) Some choices are ordinary, everyday choices – personal matters, no right or wrong
- 4) Other choices are between right and wrong, good and evil (Deut. 30:15, 19)
- 5) We must be prepared to make the important decisions of life in view of eternity

I) God Has Made a Choice

- A) God has chosen those who will be His people (Eph. 1:3-4; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Pet. 2:9)
 - 1) If we choose to live by God’s will, we will be His people

II) Choices We Must Make

A) *Friends*

- 1) Our friends can be very influential – we must choose them carefully
- 2) 1 Cor. 15:33; Prov. 22:24-25
- 3) Will my friends be helpful to my godly living or stumbling blocks?

B) *Homes*

- 1) What kind of wife or husband am I looking for? What kind will I be?
- 2) Looks alone do not determine a good mate (1 Pet. 3:3-4)
- 3) Raising children – discipline, training, example, money, dating

C) *Attitudes*

- 1) We are to turn from worldly attitudes to godly attitudes (Eph. 4:31-32)
- 2) Live in peace with all men (Rom. 12:18) and love our brethren (v. 10)
- 3) Our attitudes should be the fruit of the Spirit, for that is how we are “born and raised” (Jn. 3:5; Rom. 8:14)

D) *Salvation*

- 1) We must choose to be saved from sin (Acts 2:40); why reject grace and be lost?
- 2) Choose to live as blameless and innocent children of God (Phil. 2:15)

E) *Truth*

- 1) All truth has been revealed (Jn. 8:32; 14:6)
- 2) Choose to follow truth and not be deceived by error (1 Jn. 4:6; 2 Thess. 2:10)

F) *Service*

- 1) Cannot serve two masters (Matt. 6:24); must choose who we will love and be loyal to in this life (Rom. 6:16)
- 2) Jesus proclaimed that He is *the* way, *the* truth, and *the* life (Jn. 14:6)

G) *Commitment*

- 1) Keep our focus on a “higher plane” (Col. 3:1-2)
- 2) Worship services, giving, study, teaching others (Rom. 12:1-2)

III) Before Making Important Choices

- A) Prayer (Phil. 4:6), consult with wise friends (Prov. 19:20-21), what will please God (Matt. 6:33), help others get to heaven (1 Tim. 4:16)

Conclusion

Our **choices** are clear if we have already chosen to follow God. We do not have to agonize over decisions but do what we know is right before God and avoid evil. This is not a “whatever” choice, but a choice based on the divinely revealed standard of righteousness. The choice is yours – choose wisely in view of divine judgment and eternity (Eph. 5:15-17). “I have chosen the way of truth; Your judgments I have laid before me” (Psa. 119:30).