

CHOOSING SIDES

[Joshua 24:14,15](#)

14

Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.

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.

Introduction:

- a. Every day all of us must make numerous choices.
 1. Where do we go?
 2. what do we eat?
 3. what shall we wear?
- b. Did you ever play games when you were a child where you had to choose sides?
- C.. WE must choose sides as to whether to follow Jesus or Satan.
 - d. WILL WE CHOOSE THE WINNING SIDE?

I. SOME WHO CHOSE THE WRONG SIDE:

a. Lot - [Genesis 13:10-13](#)

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And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

11

Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12

Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

13

But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

b. Esau - [Genesis 25:29-34](#)

29

And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint:

30

And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom.

31

And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.

32

And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?

33

And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he swore unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob.

34

Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

c. The Judeans- [Jeremiah 6:16](#)

16

Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

d. The rich young ruler- [Matthew -19:16-26](#)

16

And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

17

And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

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18

He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Ex 20:13-16 Dt 5:17-20

19

Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Ex 20:12 Lev 19:18 Deut 5:16 Matt 5:43 Matt 22:39 Mark 12:31 Rom 13:9 Gal 5:14 Jam 2:8

20

The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21

Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

23

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24

And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25

When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

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But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

e. Demas - [II Timothy 4:10](#)

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For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

f. Felix - [Acts 24:24-27](#)

24

And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

25

And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

26

He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him.

27

But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

II. SOME WHO CHOSE THE RIGHT SIDE:

a. The Israelites in Joshua's time - [Joshua 24:16-18](#)

16

And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods;

17

For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:

18

And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God.

[Joshua 24:31](#)

31

And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.

b. THE APOSTLES - [Mark 10:28-30](#)

28

Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee.

29

And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or

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mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the
gospel's,

30

But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses,
and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands,
with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

c. The obedient sheep - [Matthew 25:34](#)

34

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye
blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from
the foundation of the world:

d. The apostle Paul - [II Timothy 4:6-8](#)

6

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure
is at hand.

7

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept
the faith:

8

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness,
which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day:
and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his
appearing.

e. Those who abounded in the work of the Lord- [I Corinthians
15:58](#)

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58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

f. The faithful- [Revelation 2:10](#)

10

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

[Revelation 21:6-8](#)

6

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

8

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

III. WHO SHALL WE CHOOSE TO FOLLOW?

a. Can't choose both sides - [Matthew 6:24](#)

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24

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

James 1:8

8

A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

b. God hates indecision - Revelation 3:15,16

15

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

16

So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

c. Jesus made it clear, We are either for or against Him - Matthew 12:30

30

He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

d. Choose life not death - I Timothy 6:12

12

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

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[I John 2:25](#)

25

And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

e. We shall all face the judgment - [Hebrews 9:27](#)

27

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

[Revelation 20:11-15](#)

11

And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

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15

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

f. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" - [Galatians 6:7-10](#)

7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

8

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

9

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

10

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

CONCLUSION:

a. Precious soul, what will be your choice. Before us stands Christ with eternal life to offer--a life without pain or tears – an eternal life of absolute joy!

b, SATAN OFFERS eternal suffering with no end.

c. CHOOSE YOU THIS DAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE