

## What Do We Choose?

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***“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: <sup>27</sup> the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today; <sup>28</sup> and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.”***

– Deut 11:26-28 NKJV

This Word, this choice, given to God’s people in the exodus, is the same for us today. Let us realize that we too, are in our own wilderness: as individuals, and the Church as a whole. We’ve been “saved” from bondage to the world as Israel was saved from bondage in Egypt. Having now given us this wonderful opportunity to enter into His Eternal plan and promises, He has, by His Spirit, led us (as He led Israel) into the wilderness, ***“to humble us and test us, to know what is in our hearts, whether we will keep His commandments or not.”*** (Deut 8:2)

Speaking to those the Father has chosen and drawn to Christ, He is asking us to choose. Daily. The promise of His Kingdom is to those who choose blessing, and prove so by ***“obeying the commands of the Lord our God by walking in His ways and fearing Him.”*** (Deut 8:6). Can we honestly and sincerely say, as Joshua, ***“as for me & my house, we will serve the Lord.”***, or are we still playing footsie with the world? Have we taken the Word of the Lord, His promise, and His warning, to heart? Do we really believe? Or are we simply going through the motions?

Truthfully, whether we realize it or not, we are making our choice today. We are letting God and all the host of heaven know what we have chosen: by our actions, deeds and behavior. As a deaf man can only perceive by observation, so too, what we say, or have stated or confessed in the past, means nothing to God if we are not walking it out daily. Is our life a testimony of what WE have done, or is GOD the One receiving glory because we are walking with Jesus and following His Way?

Sadly, I believe we are seeing this prophecy from Malachi being played out today -

***“And now, O priests, this commandment is for you.  
<sup>2</sup> If you will not hear, And if you will not take it to heart,  
To give glory to My name,” Says the Lord of hosts,  
“I will send a curse upon you,  
And I will curse your blessings.  
Yes, I have cursed them already,  
Because you do not take it to heart.”***

- Mal 2:1-2 NKJV

Those destined to rule have allowed themselves to become entangled with the things of this world, and become “lukewarm” in their pursuit of the **“Kingdom of God and His righteousness.”**

And the result is that we see rampant in our country many of the diseases and plaques and troubles that God said would come upon those who turned aside to serve idols. Ours may not be statues of fallen elohim, but know this... these are lurking behind what we do worship and idolize other than God, especially in the church. And we know the destined end of these, and those who follow them – **“Blackest of darkness forever.”** (Jude 1:6,13)

This nation, that was once blessed by God and its leaders, both religious and even many secular, knew and adhered by God’s moral standards. It is very easy to see now that this is no longer true. The majority of leaders have forsaken God’s standards for man’s desires. Even much of the church has compromised and doesn’t treasure the whole of God’s Word in their hearts. In a well-meaning but misguided attempt to have others join their denomination or assembly, they have set aside the Eternal Law of God and (perhaps) unknowingly **“have their minds set on what the flesh desires.”** (Rom 8:5).

Many in this generation “seek after signs.” (I speak here from what I’ve personally experienced and observed). We’ve lifted up the “miracles” and “manifestations” in our gatherings. “Worship” often seems more about the performers abilities than bringing the congregation into the Presence of God. Good motivational speakers touch emotions of many. We weep over a healing or ones’ confession of faith, but do we grieve over our sin? Right now, saints, there is heavenly scribe whom God has assigned to go among God’s people and **“put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in the midst.”** (Eze 9:4). Is that “mark” on our foreheads? I pray it is on mine.

Do we, as God tells us to, **“test the spirits”** and **“test those who call themselves apostles”**? We must, for our Lord Jesus warned us of these things. **“For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”**<sup>25</sup> **See, I have told you ahead of time.**” – Matt 24:24-25 NIV

As a whole, wanting to be all-inclusive, and not offend anyone, we’ve watered down the Gospel of the Kingdom in favor of a message of unmerited, unconditional forgiveness and promise of Heaven, with a sense of peace and assurance. In other words, **“another Gospel.”** While this may pack ‘em into the church buildings, how much Eternal fruit is being borne? As Jesus cursed the fig tree that bore no fruit, saying **“May no one ever eat fruit from you again.”** (Mark 11:14), He will have similar words for those churches whose leaders have, by their unashamed disobedience to God’s commands, chosen the curse rather than His blessing. **“They have healed the hurt of My people slightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ when there is no peace”** (Jer 6:14), and so their work will be judged as **“wood hay and stubble.”** (1Cor 3:12)

***“Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.”***

– Rev 2:5 HCSB

The great mercy of our God is that He is patient with us, and gives us opportunity to “*come to our senses*”, repent of our bad decisions and behavior, humble ourselves and make the choice to follow Christ, who is Life. This One, the “*Bread of Life*”, is standing at our door even now, saying “***Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.***” (Rev 3:20)

When we weigh all our options, and consider the immediate consequences of our choice, how will we respond? Will we let Him in, and give Him access to every room? For on one hand we may have honor and the “*praise of men*”, while on the other we may lose our standing among men and face great persecution and ostracization. What we view as “blessing” in our Christian walk may not always actually be a blessing from our Father. But all is used by Him to test our faithfulness and see what is in our hearts.

So through the circumstances of life, and in the seasons that God chooses, we are often led to the “*valley of decision.*” And here we have to make a choice.

***“I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; <sup>20</sup> that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life.”*** – Deut 30:19-20a

Now, I know well the verses some may be thinking of right now, such as Paul’s declaration to the church -

***“Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, because it is written: Everyone who is hung on a tree is cursed.<sup>14</sup> The purpose was that the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles by Christ Jesus, so that we could receive the promised Spirit through faith.”*** – Gal 3:13-14

We’ve been redeemed from the curse. Exactly! No longer do we have to live in fear of the curse, because Jesus has come, and as the Word exclaims, “***There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.***” – Rom 8:1

The key is being “in Christ Jesus.” This is not some universal, unconditional, blanket reality for all church-goers or those who have simply made a “statement of faith” or said a “sinner’s prayer.” We’ve looked at this extensively before in our Romans 8 Study, which began with this Truth - [In Christ](#)

Being a member of a denomination, being found behind a pulpit every Sunday morning, or even having a Bible School degree, does not mean we are “in Christ Jesus” and free from the condemnation and curse that will come upon those who “bear no fruit” or “bury their talent.”

For those who, in Truth, have “*received the Spirit through faith*”, are now “*walking according to the Spirit*”, by Him are “*putting to death the deeds of the flesh*”, and are bearing the “*fruit of the Spirit*” in lives being transformed, there is no fear of the curse. For these are demonstrating to God that they have chosen the blessing and not the curse.

The curse has been lifted, but we put ourselves back under the curse if we choose to wander from the path of Life that God has set before us. It truly is a “*narrow path*” upon which the saints must tread, if we would obtain Life.

Comparing our hearts to ground that God sends His rain upon, the Scripture says - “***Ground that drinks up the rain falling on it repeatedly, and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. <sup>8</sup> But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless and on the verge of being cursed; its end is to be burned over.***” (Heb 6:7-8)

Indeed “***He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth.***” (Hos 6:3). Will we receive Him, feed upon His substance, and “***bear much fruit, and prove to be His disciples.***” (John 15:8)

The opportunity to choose is now. “Today is the Day of salvation.” There is coming a time when the choice will be taken away and our God says -

***“He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”*** – Rev 22:11 NKJV

Praise His Name that that Day is not yet. His patience yet endures. But it is coming, and He is warning us today to turn from that which is perishing, and to resolve now to “***deny ourselves, pick up our cross daily and follow Jesus.***” (Luke 9:23)

Specifically to those the Father has called, whose garments remain stained by compromise with world, He says, “***You unfaithful people, don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.***” (James 4:4)

If the called and chosen of God are comfortable in this world and well-liked by the masses, then perhaps some introspection and meditation before the Lord is in order, for again has not Jesus told His disciples - “***If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.***” (John 15:19 NIV)

To love this world and what it, in its corrupted state, represents, is to choose God's cursing. Indeed, that is why He tells us -

***“Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you.”***

<sup>18</sup> ***“I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty.”***

- 2Cor 6:17-18 NKJV

The Word of the Lord, this Kingdom Truth of sowing & reaping, choice & consequence is Eternal. What God declared in the Old Testament to His people hasn't changed. Not one *“jot or tittle”* has been erased from His Word to His Elect. ***“I, the Lord, do not change.”*** (Mal 3:6)

I believe we are seeing precursors of what is to come. As the Lord scattered His people Israel for their disobedience, He will scatter His Elect today across this globe because of the stubbornness of our hearts. Otherwise, He would not have to ***“gather together His Elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven”*** when He returns. (Mark 13:27).

He will allow affliction, pestilence, plague and calamity to come upon all nations, including America, because, as a whole, we do not ***“dwell in the secret place of the Most High, abiding under the shadow of the Almighty”***, we do not fully believe that ***“God is our refuge and our fortress, and only in Him will we trust.”*** (See Psalm 91:1-2)

Is this not what He said?

***“If you will listen closely to My voice—the voice of your God—and do what is right in My eyes, pay attention to My instructions, and keep all of My laws; then I will not bring on you any of the plagues that I did on the Egyptians, for I am the Eternal, your Healer.”***

– Ex 15:26 Voice

So, no, His Word hasn't changed. His Truth is Eternal.

***“I've brought you today to the crossroads of Blessing and Curse.***

<sup>27</sup> ***The Blessing: if you listen obediently to the commandments of God, your God, which I command you today.***

<sup>28</sup> ***The Curse: if you don't pay attention to the commandments of God, your God, but leave the road that I command you today, following other gods of which you know nothing.”***

– Deut 11:26-28 MSG

As always, there is so much more to be said on this. But today, dear saints, we are at the crossroads. What do we choose?

*As for me and my house  
we will serve the Lord*

**JOSHUA 24:15**

Peace & Blessings,

Michael Biggs

[To Him Who Overcomes](#)