

# **Choose Life**

**Deut. 30:15-20**

# “Choose...”

- We are capable of choosing and responsible for the choices we make.
  - Created in God’s image. (Gen. 1:26-27)
  - Not born incapable of choosing good. (refutes Calvinism)
    - “...doctrine derived from the Augustinian concept of original sin. It is the teaching that, as a consequence of the Fall of Man, every person born into the world is enslaved to the service of sin as a result of their fallen nature and, apart from the efficacious or prevenient grace of God, is utterly unable to choose to follow God, refrain from evil, or accept the gift of salvation as it is offered.
  - God has given us mind, intellect and will to hear his will and choose obedience or disobedience. (Isa. 1:18-20; Jn. 7:17)

# Choices Made By Biblical Characters...

- Adam and Eve → chose disobedience (Gen. 3:1-6)
- Cain → chose to slay Abel. (Gen. 4:3-8)
- Sons of God → chose daughters of men. (Gen. 6:2; cf. 5:26)
- Lot → chose the well-watered plain (Gen. 13:4-13)
- Ananias and Sapphira → chose to lie. (Acts 5:3)
- Demas → chose to go back into the world. (II Tim. 4:10; I Jn. 2:15-27; Js. 4:4)
- Moses → chose affliction, reproaches (Heb. 11:24-25)
- Mary → chose the good part (Lk. 10:42)

# The Choices We Make...

- We choose our thoughts. (Phil. 4:8; Eph. 4:26)
- We choose our words. (Js. 1:26; 3:9-10)
- We choose our response to mistreatment. (Matt. 5:43-44; Acts 16:19-25)
- We choose our companions. (Prov. 1:10; I Cor. 15:33; Gen. 6:2)
- We choose our recreation. (II Tim. 3:4)
- We choose our work. (I Tim. 5:8; Eph. 4:28; I Tim. 6:17-18)
- We choose our response to the gospel. (Acts 18:8; Rom. 10:16)

# Questions To Ask When Choosing...

- Am I following the teaching and example of Jesus with this choice? (Matt. 22:37-40; I Pet. 2:21-23)
- What kind of example does this choice set for my brethren, family, children, neighbors, co-workers, school friends, etc. (I Tim. 4:12)
- Is this a choice that will help or hinder my ultimate goal to go to heaven? (Phil. 3:9-15)

# Choose Life

- Urgency in choosing ...
  - Life is short and uncertain. (Js. 4:14)
  - Danger of becoming hardened to the truth. (I Tim. 4:2)
  - Things that are certain:
    - Second coming. (II Pet. 3:10-13)
    - Resurrection. (Jn. 5:28-29)
    - Judgment. (Heb. 9:27)
    - Eternity. (Matt. 25:46)
- What shall I do with Jesus? (Matt. 26:22)