

"Choose for Yourselves this Day"

Joshua 24:14,15

Introduction:

- A. Joshua's words in farewell speech.
 - 1. Reminds of past idolatry on other side of River (Euphrates - vs. 2)
 - 2. Reminds them of Abraham's call on "other side of River" (v. 2)
 - 3. Reminds of Egyptian bondage and deliverance. (v. 5ff.)
 - 4. Reminds of possession of Canaan. (v. 11ff cf. ch. 21:43-45)
- B. Joshua's words present some implications about man and decision.

Discussion:

I. Decision Is A Basic Right Of Man

- A. God does not ask impossible - Israel could choose. (v. 22; Cf. Deut. 30:19)
- B. God does not punish for matters of no choice. Fall of Adam and Eve brought death.
- C. God does not taut with condition impossible to meet. (Mk. 16:15,16; Matt. 11:28; Rev. 22:17.
- D. "Theology", not God, robs man of choice: Calvinism.

II. Decision Is A Basic Responsibility Of Man

- A. Decisions should reflect investigation. (cf. Acts 17:11; Eph. 6:13,14 - "having done all to stand")
 - 1. Irresponsible to decide without studying issue.
 - 2. Irresponsible to decide on mere sentiment or emotions.
- B. Decisions preferred to no decision. (cf. B. Bryants statement; 1 Kgs. 18:21; Rev. 3:15,16)
 - 1. Indecision may reflect ignorance - Time for study, but a time for decision.
 - 2. Indecision may reflect Cowardice or laziness.
 - 3. Indecision may reflect indifference.
 - 4. Indecision may decide to remain neutral, but let it be a decision not a cop out.
 - 5. Indecision may be more dangerous than wrong decision.

III. Decision Is A Basic Recurrence For Man. (cf. "This day")

- A. Each Lord's Day must decide - Worship God or serve self, family, etc.
- B. Each Wednesday night or gospel meeting - Serve self or God.
- C. Each Pay Day - Spend all on other things or give some to the Lord.
- D. Each day - Conduct life as Christian should or as world dictates.

Conclusion:

- A. Let us recognize our options - Many wrong ways (gods), one right way ("the Lord")
- B. Let us recognize our decisions may involve others. - "Me and my house"
- C. Let us recognize our decisions can be of eternal importance - get facts.
- D. Let us recognize that the time for decision must come - no decision is wrong decision.