

Life's Great Choices

Gen. 13:1-13 (v. 11)

Introduction:

- A. Lot's choice was shortsighted and far-reaching.
 - 1. Paid too much attention to verse 10, too little attention to verse 13.
 - 2. Paid a heavy price for his choice.
 - a. His personal happiness. (2 Pet. 2:8; Gen. 19:7-9).
 - b. His family. (Gen. 19:14, 26, 30-35).
- B. Life filled with choices - some major, some minor - some often, some once.
 - 1. Need to study scriptures.
 - 2. Need to pray for wisdom. (Jas. 1:5).
- C. Life has three great choices that require extra-ordinary care and wisdom:

Discussion:

I. One Should Carefully Choose His Life's *Grand Purpose*.

- A. Effects all other choices we make.
- B. Solomon wrestled with this choice.
 - 1. Education (wisdom)? (Eccl. 1:16-18)
 - 2. Pleasure? (Eccl. 2:1-2).
 - 3. Wealth? (Eccl. 2:4-11)
 - 4. "Fear God and keep His commandments...!" (Eccl. 12:13).
- C. Joshua's choice should be ours. (Josh. 24:15)
- D. Paul's choice should be ours. (2 Cor. 5:9,10 NKJ, NIV)

II. One Should Carefully Choose His Life's *Work*.

- A. We must choose to work. (Eph. 4:28; 2 Thess. 3:10) - Even homemakers work. (Tit. 2:5 NKJ, ASV).
- B. We need try to find and choose work that:
 - 1. Is honorable. (2 Cor. 8:21)
 - 2. Adequately provides. (1 Tim. 5:8; Acts 20:34, 35).
 - 3. Leaves room for higher duties.
 - a. Spiritual responsibilities. (Matt. 6:33).
 - (1) Time for private study and worship.
 - (2) Time for public study and worship. (cf. Heb. 10:25)
 - (3) Time to do share of church's work. (Eph. 4:16)
 - b. Parental responsibilities. (Eph. 6:4).
 - c. Marital responsibilities. (1 Cor. 7:3-5).

III. One Should Carefully Choose His Life's *Mate*.

- A. Choice begins with dating stage - people seldom marry those they don't date.
- B. Choose lawfully. (cf. Matt. 14:4)
 - 1. One of the opposite sex. (cf. Rom. 1)
 - 2. One who has never been married.
 - 3. One who is a widow(er). (Rom. 7:1-3).
 - 4. One who has innocently divorced a mate for fornication. (Matt. 19:9).
- C. Choose wisely. (cf. 1 Cor. 7:28; 1 Cor. 10:23)
 - 1. The wisdom of choosing one generally compatible should be self-evident.
 - 2. The wisdom of choosing a faithful Christian should be self-evident.
 - a. More likely to help rather than hinder your faithfulness. (cf. Neh. 13:26,27)
 - b. More likely to help in bringing up children in the Lord.
 - c. Try making two lists:
 - (1) Good reasons for marrying a Christian.
 - (2) Good reasons for marrying a Non-Christian.

Conclusion:

- A. God has given us the wonderful ability to make choices.
- B. We need to make the best choices we can.
- C. Why not choose to be a faithful Christian today?