

EMBRACING CHANGE

"The Choice is Yours"

Joshua 24

INTRODUCTION:

1. In chapter 23 we see Joshua giving a message to the leadership of Israel.
2. In chapter 24 Joshua prepares to give his final message.
3. If you knew you were to die...what would be your final message.
4. Cf. 23:14
5. This final message Joshua preaches centers around one word..."Choices." 23:15
6. Judges 2:6-10

THREE CHOICES FOR US TODAY

I. YOU CHOOSE THE LIFE THAT YOU WILL LIVE

1. Chapter 24:3-13
2. 17 times God says "I did it!!!" "I gave it all to you"
3. The message is clear "You did nothing!!!" "I did everything"
4. Deuteronomy 8:2 (remember); 17-20 (why?)
5. Moses and Joshua are trying to impress upon the people this point: "It is God and God alone who has gotten you where you are!"
6. **Application:** Make sure you know...what God has done for you and then you have to make a choice.
7. It is when you remember all that God has done for you....that you will live a life of Thanksgiving, appreciation, and gratitude.
8. **You and I have a choice!!!!** Either you and I will live our lives with Gratitude or we will live our lives some other way.
9. Joshua 24:31
 - a) This is their response to Joshua's sermon.

10. Judges 2:9-10 *This is frightening!!!*

11. **VERY IMPORTANT:** *It is absolutely critical that we do everything we can to get the Word of God into our young people.*

12. When you stop remembering....you stop being thankful.

II. YOU CHOOSE THE LORD YOU WILL LOVE

1. Joshua 24:14

2. Because of all that God has done for you.

a) "**fear the LORD**" (Jehovah)

1) In opposition to the false gods of Israel was to reject all foreign Gods.

2) To fear God is to honor, fear, and to respect Jehovah God.

3. Luke 10:27

a) "**with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength, and with all your mind.**"

4. Critical to Change in our lives is the Worship of God.

5. Cf. 23:14

6. Vs 15a

a) "**And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve**"

7. Vs 15b

a) "**whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the river**"

1) Speaking of Abraham in Ur of the Chaldeans.

b) "**or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell**"

1) Think about it...if you serve the gods of the Amorites you can basically do what you want.

8. Vs 15c

a) "**But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD**"

1) Now that's a choice!!! A continual choosing every day.

9. Vs 15

a) "**Choose you this day...**" And tomorrow, and the next day...

10. John Piper: *The sin of the fall in Genesis 3 wasn't the sin of disobedience, but the sin of loving something more than God.*

a) They loved the fruit more than God.

11. **What god are you serving?**

a) *The almighty dollar god?*

b) *The power and prestige god?*

c) *The pleasure god?*

d) *The sports god?*

12. **Jeremiah 17:9**

13. **Proverbs 3:5-6**

14. **Joshua 24:16**

15. **Joshua 24:17-18**

16. How easy it is to give Lip Service to God's Truth.

17. **Vs 19-21**

III. CHOOSE THE LEVEL OF YOUR WITNESS

1. **Joshua 24:22-27**

2. They made a covenant with God, and Joshua said well I'm gonna set this stone up as a witness to what you just promised.

a) **Baby dedication.** (Parents make a promise to raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord).

b) **The Marriage Covenant** - When you invite God to the wedding. He comes and holds you to your promise.

3. There comes a time when we need to make a promise to God to sanctify ourselves before Him.

4. **Joshua 24:15**