

Decide your own Destiny!



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Every day we *decide* on things—these decisions can be minor or major issues, but *how we decide* is an indicator of what is in our *heart*—whether we are following the Word of God or the will of the world. Ultimately, we *decide* our own *destiny*!

We *all* decide every day—like Matthew 6:14 “*If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*” That is an extremely important decision to make—and one we face often—*Forgive and be forgiven*; or *decide not to forgive and to not be forgiven*. Our *decisions* will *decide* our *destiny* in the final analysis.

Jesus told us Mark 11:25 “*When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*” When we decide to forgive, the Father forgives us. The apostle said the same—Colossians 3:13 “*Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel [complaint; grievances] against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.*”

A poem titled: *Invictus*, by an English writer, included a much-quoted line: *I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul.* In a general sense we *have* to make the *decision* on *where* we spend *eternity*. It is *God* Who is in control for all eternity—and He says “*As Christ forgave you, so also do ye.*” God allows us to *decide* whether to forgive; or *not* forgive; to *obey* His Word; or *not* obey it and follow the crowd. Everyone will *answer* to *Him* for *how* we *decide*.

Conducting our life according to God’s plan as explained in the Bible, is the only way anyone will stand before Him on Judgment Day dressed in the righteousness of Christ and forgiven of the sins they have committed. Is our *faith* and our *trust* really on Jesus—who alone can bring us safely to Heaven cleansed of sin by His sacrifice on the cross—that is the question we must answer.

Some people think they can live any way they choose—and when they are older, they will get right with God—I *have all the time in the world*. Our eternal destiny, however, is not determined by whether we are old or young, but on *whom* we have *put* our *faith*—that is the deciding factor!

John 3:18 “*He who trusts in Him does not come up for judgement. He who does not trust has already received sentence, because he has not his trust resting on the name of God’s only Son.*” It is not about *age*, but about *faith*—we decide our destiny because we decide on whom we trust. Jesus is the only One who can save us from the horrible fate of the unbelieving.

It could happen quickly—for the *young* and for the *old*. We do *not* have all the time in the world—but *this* time and *this* day! We cannot harden our heart with all the warnings 1 Corinthians 15:52 “*In a moment, in the twinkling of an*

eye, at the last trump.” The decision of what happens *next* is in our own hands. It was said: *Every-one has to make a choice, one way or the other. Sitting on the fence is not really an option because Satan owns the fence.*

We have all the *warnings* needed to escape the fate of the ungodly—and to make the decision to live our life in the light of God’s Truth—and by the power of His Spirit, to trust every day on the Atonement Blood of Christ for everything confronting us that day.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 “*For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night*”—quickly and suddenly; we *have* to be ready. That verse warns us—*no one* is guaranteed that tomorrow will even arrive. We must read the Bible with keen interest and asking God to help us understand it—2 Corinthians 6:2 “*Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*”

We should not lay our head on the pillow at night, unless we are *sure* that we have asked God to forgive us of our sins, and being *certain* that we have also forgiven all those who have offended us; or harmed us; or lied about us; or wronged us, a family member, a child, or anyone in some way—maybe a *multitude* of ways—but we must *forgive* them with God’s help.

We should *pray* every day Matthew 6:12 Father, “*Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;*” and not until we are *sure* we have followed Mark 11:25 “*If you hold anything [ought] against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.*”

Something cannot be *true* and *false* at the same time. Either Jesus is the Son of God, who is the *Way*; the *Truth*, and the *Life* John 14:6; who rose from the dead to forgive our sins—or He *is not* and *did not*. If we *believe* something, we will *act* on it. We can decide to believe that Jesus died on

the Cross to save our soul; or we can decide *not* to believe—and make an *eternal* mistake!

It was said that Christianity is the largest religion in the world, but there is something very distinct about it. It is a religion in one sense, but all about one Person—Jesus. If there is no *Jesus*, there would be no *Christianity*—the religion could not exist.

With no Jesus who walked and talked to us—who was crucified on the cross and rose from the grave three days later, there would be no *Christianity* and no *Christian life* and no *hope* of Heaven. The Christian religion is founded on the Son of God—our Lord and our Savior. The question that faces everyone, is: *What do we do with the Truth He gave us!* Only *He* can take us out of this world of sin, depravity, and darkness—and in to His marvelous kingdom of light—only Jesus!

Everyone will leave this world at some *time* or at some *event*—an event called the Rapture. At *that* point we must have the *right ticket* to the *right place!* Everyone receives a one-way ticket to eternity—it *has* to be to Heaven—which it *will* be if it is *stamped* with the *Blood* of Jesus!

We either arrive in *Heaven* as God's child, or we land in *Hell* as a follower of Satan's system. There is *no* middle ground—we either arrive at *one* or the *other* destination—and it *is* forever! We are all *one breath away from eternity*—and no one can pull themselves up to Heaven by their own ability. Everyone has to reach out for the nail-scarred hand of the Savior—who alone can pull us to safety.

Everyone must make the *decision* to trust in faith on the shed Blood of Christ—in regard to every situation facing them; with every difficult circumstance confronting them; and pertaining to every offensive person insulting them. Trusting in faith on the *Blood*, is placing every wrong before

God—and *leaving* it in His hands for the solution He promises.

We will *decide* our own *destiny*. To go to the Lake of Fire for an eternity, all anyone would have to do is do *nothing*, because we are all born with a *sinful* attitude that will *not trust* God for *anything*, and which *will reject* God's commandments about *everything*. We *have* to make a *decision* to *deal* with the attitude we began life with—because Hell is the *default destination!*

God made an *arrangement*, and He formed a *plan* for our *destiny* to be *Heaven*—but a *decision* must be made on *our* part—a decision to *accept* that arrangement and to *follow* that plan. He sent His Son to *pay* for our sins and *paved* the way back to His kingdom. To go to Hell is to do *nothing*; to go to Heaven is to *repent*; to *confess* our sins; to *admit* our wrong attitudes; and to *accept* the Atonement Blood of Jesus as full payment for the sins of the past.

Sitting on the fence is not an option—that is what Satan *wants* us to do. Jesus said that *being on the fence* spiritually is *not deciding* one way or the other—Revelation 3:16 “*So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*” Not deciding is choosing the flames—default destination! Being on the fence forces us *out* of God's family.

There is hope, however John 3:17 “*For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*”

Jesus *is* who He *said* He *is*—the only *One* who can save us from the Lake of Fire! 1 John 4:14 “*We have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.*”

Deciding to *not* believe, is deciding to *reject* the Savior of our soul. After all the evidence that the Bible is *true* and *accurate*, it would seem that the decision would be an *easy* one, but we forget that the attitude we began with, follows us far into the Christian life, and tries to pull us *away from* the *light* of the Word.

We have been *invited* to *Heaven*—*not* to the flames. Our Savior always gives advice we can *trust*—Revelation 3:18 “*I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye-salve, that thou mayest see.*”

We *decide* our own *destiny*—and, at some point, by the grace and goodness and mercy of God, may we decide to *accept* the invitation of our Lord, and to *decide* that with His help, we will walk in the light of His Truth until He returns to take us back with Him. 2 Corinthians 6:2 “*Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*”

John 3:19 “*This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.*”

Verse 21 is our decision—to *live by the Truth*; to walk in its *light* every day—and to do *everything* by the ability God gives us! 1 Corinthians 10:31 “*Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*”



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