

Live with no Regrets!

#3062 0716 23A

The question: Is it possible to *live life without regrets!*—If we live this life as God has instructed by Word and Bible example—including our learning from our experiences along the way—we very well could *live with no regrets.*

Making Scriptural *decisions* and right *choices* concerning the issues of life is more important today than it has ever been, due to the many and new distractions or enticements of the world. Every choice made has consequences attached—they *must* be correct choices!

The majority in the first century stumbled over the Cornerstone, because the Messiah did not arrive as they expected. He came in lowliness, humility, and love toward everyone. He did not come as a warrior King—who would fight for Israel and free them from Roman rule.

There would be serious consequences for not understanding what the Scriptures said about the Messiah. These church leaders quoted the Scriptures constantly, yet they missed the prophecies concerning the Messiah, and they did not *recognize* Him when He stood before them. John 1:11 “*He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*”

Jesus stands before *us* today from the pages of the Bible—and when we read His Words, we are just as obligated to accept His teaching as

they were. To reject His *Words* is to reject *Him* and to reject the *One* who sent Him. Jesus tells us to *love* others and to *pray* for those acting wrongly, but unfortunately, we often see the worst in others and condemn their actions. We must repent of such attitudes.

The Pharisees, instead of repenting of their sins, responded in anger toward the One who loved them—and who told them of the deadly pride in their heart. Jesus was telling them the truth, but they considered Him their enemy—and if they would not repent, it would have serious consequences they would *regret* for an eternity!

They plotted His execution, but a death sentence would await *them* if they did not repent and cry out for His mercy and grace. If they were not repentant, they would be crushed by the Cornerstone they rejected. In those days, certain sins called for capital punishment, but two or three witnesses had to testify against the accused. Many false witnesses came forward.

Jesus was offering the Kingdom to Israel, but they stumbled over the Cornerstone. *That* is why their house would be left desolate—*that* is why their land would be taken from them—and *that* is why the King would give His message of truth to those who would produce spiritual fruit worthy of His Kingdom.

Daniel said that in the end times the Stone that is cut without hands will strike and topple the kingdoms of the earth—then break them to pieces so they blow away like chaff on a threshing floor. The Stone would grow to become an everlasting Kingdom—a Kingdom that anyone can be *part* of, but a decision must be made to *accept* the King, *listen* to His words, and *trust* in the Blood that He shed for them.

Daniel 2:34 “*You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. 35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and*

the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

The Stone will crush all who reject the Messiah—everyone needs to cry out to the Rock for mercy and forgiveness. Daniel 2:44 “*And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.*” Everyone must pray as the publican—Luke 18:13 “*God be merciful to me a sinner.*”

Down through millennia, millions have stumbled over God and His Truth. Instead of seeking to be part of God’s kingdom, most people have sought to build their own. Just like Balak, the ancient King of Moab, these religious leaders of Jesus’ day put stumbling blocks before God’s children to entice them to eat foods sacrificed to idols and to worship false gods.

That is a warning for us to be aware of any false teaching that would entice us to accept wrong ways or tolerate idols that could get between us and God. Having an idol would eventually lead to us being crushed by the Cornerstone. The false idol of today is money, of course, but there are many others of every type, form, and description.

Jesus warned: Revelation 2:14 “*But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.*”

The Lord Jesus is the true Rock on which our religious faith is built. 1 Corinthians 3:11 “*For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*” If the correct Cornerstone is not properly set in place in our life, there will be

serious consequences in the long run. Rev. 2:16 “*Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.*”

Every day and with every thing, our *trust* and *faith* is to remain on the shed Blood of Calvary—our *faith* must be on *Jesus* to heal us when oppressed; to deliver us if afflicted; to provide when a need is met; to bring justice when wronged by another—and it means trusting Him to give us a *forgiving* heart attitude toward everyone.

The Bible takes a stand of faith on every major issue we deal with today—personal relationships; real estate; insurance; alcoholic beverages; our response to difficult situations or people; physical or spiritual healing if we are ill or troubled in heart; employment issues; home situations; training of children; the importance of reading Scripture; and many other concerns.

We all would admit how wicked the world has become—especially in the last few years. There are a multitude of things today accepted as *normal*, but God says they are *not normal* at all—and in fact are evil and are an abomination in His sight. With any position the Bible takes on a particular topic, the world today will say that the *opposite* position is perfectly okay. *That* is the corrupt culture we live in today.

It all comes down to the ways of the *world* or the ways of the *King*! *One* of the *two* we will *choose*, and the *choice* we make will have eternal consequences—choosing correctly has never been more critical! The world says to get even; strike back—Matthew 5:39 “*But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.*” Not many in the world are giving *that* advice, but it *is* the advice the true *Messiah* gave—and it *is* connected to eternity.

Matthew 5:40 “*And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.* 41 *And whosoever shall compel thee to go a*

mile, go with him twain. 42 *Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.*” The world says to sue anyone for anything—get *even* or get some *compensation*.

Not many in the world are willing to obey the Words of Jesus and to take someone twice as far as they asked us to take them; and very few are giving money or giving anything to someone who asks for a donation.

If a person wants to borrow a power tool, bicycle, sports’ equipment, musical instrument, money, or anything of considerable expense, most in the world will not consider giving anything without some guarantee that it will be returned or replaced if damaged, lost, or stolen. But Jesus just says: *From him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away*—no qualifying words.

Jesus said: Matthew 5:43 “*Ye have heard that it hath been said [Leviticus 19:18; Deuteronomy 23:3-6], Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.* 44 *But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;* 45 *That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven.*”

Most people in the world hardly speak to their neighbor, and if a neighbor causes trouble or damages something of theirs, they will take court action against them to be compensated financially. That is definitely *not* loving a neighbor nor forgiving them.

No one today, it seems, loves their enemy; very few, if any, are blessing those who curse them; not many are doing anything good for people who hate them; and fewer still are praying for a person who uses them to gain some advantage. Not many are praying for their persecutors, because the majority of people are children of the devil who will eventually end up in the flames with him.

Knowing of all that—compels us to *know* what the *Bible* says, so we can guard *against* worldly ways, wrong attitudes, and unscriptural responses. These wrong ways of living and responding are seen and heard on social media, with commercials; in public school classrooms; in politics; and even in some churches—sad to say. Following wrong examples or accepting unscriptural advice can cause us to *stumble* over the Rock of our salvation.

The *foundation of our life* must be the *Cornerstone of our faith*—the *Lord Jesus*. He *has* to be the Controller of our life and our attitudes. If He is our Cornerstone, He will crush everything that is *unscriptural*, and everything that *opposes* Bible teaching. If we have the Word of God, the Lord Jesus, and the indwelling Holy Spirit controlling our life, we will be shining a Gospel light for others to see and to emulate.

How we meet the circumstances we encounter every day is of *major* importance. If we hear an insult; meet with an offense; are treated in an unkind manner; are wronged; or if any of our children are insulted; offended; or treated unfairly, we are *obligated* to meet it correctly—as the *Lord* says to meet such things. If we do not, there will be serious consequences—and they could be eternal consequences if not *repented* of and *getting back* into God’s will.

Every day we ask God to remove *wrong attitudes* that can lie deep in our heart; we ask Him to help us give right *responses* toward those who have wronged us or our family. The question: Is our response the *way of the world*—or the *way of the King*! If it is the way of our Savior, we can *Live with no Regrets!*



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