

Make a Difference!

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Today more than ever—we need to live, talk, decide, and treat people in a way that would *Make a Difference* in someone's life. If we *live by the Word* we will *make a difference*—in the life of a family member, a friend, a coworker, or in someone's life.

³ John 1:4 “*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.*” To *Make a Difference*—we just *walk in truth* and see *spiritual fruit* in our life!

If we take how Jesus told us to *talk* and *walk* seriously—concerning our *attitudes* and our treatment of others—then we *walk in Truth*—that is *obeying the Word*.

¹ John 1:6 “*If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: ⁷ But if we walk in the **light**, as he is in the **light**, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*”

There are millions of false religions in the world—we have to be *on guard* and *ever alert* to what message is *not* according to Scripture.

There are atheists and agnostics who do *not* believe that there *is* a devil. But we know there *is*, and what we know *about* him is explained in *Scripture*—the devil is *real* and on *earth*—and is trying to pull us down.

Any atheist, agnostic, or skeptic just needs to read the Bible and be enlightened. There *is* a God

who wants to *save them*, and there *is* a *devil* who wants to *destroy them*.

Jesus says John 8:36 “*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed*”—free from wrong attitudes; from harmful cravings; from using or abusing anything that will harm us—things that Satan tempts people to want.

Millions are entrapped by serious addictions that will eventually end their life here on earth—and then send them to the lake of fire forever.

To make a difference in *our life* and the life of someone *else*, we begin by *believing* what Jesus did for us at Calvary. We then *live* by the Words He spoke and following that by *trusting* God every day to meet every situation, person, and difficulty according to His instructions.

In the Bible, some *chose* to believe Jesus, and some did not. John 8:31 “*Jesus [said] to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; ³² And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*”

There are millions of Jews today who do not know the *Truth of God*, so they have not believed in the *Son of God*. They did not believe He was who He *said* He was, so they are *still* in their sins.

The one vitally important requirement is to truly accept the true Messiah—John 6:29 “*That ye believe on him whom he hath sent.*”

Many Jewish people read only the *Old Testament*—because they are still waiting for the Messiah of the *New Testament*—who already *came*, gave His life on the Cross, and *ascended* into Heaven. They need to read the following Scripture:

Proverbs 30:4 “*Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?*”

The Old Testament refers often about God's Son. It goes on to say ⁵ “*Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. ⁶ Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.*”

Living by the Word is the way to *make a difference* in the world—to be an *influence* on someone to live that *same Truth*. We *first* concentrate on our *own* spiritual condition; our *own* attitudes; and our *own* way of talking and responding, before we could make a difference in someone else's life.

Making a difference means *making the effort* to help others when we are given the opportunity to do so. Philippians 4:3 “*I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life.*”

Making a difference means *living the Truth* of the Bible—and not just *picking* and *choosing* what things to *believe* and what *not*—like a food buffet. Picking and choosing only what we like, does *not* work with the Christian life.

Our daily Christian walk must be based on the *entire Truth* of the Bible. ¹ Thessalonians 2:4 “*As we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.*”

We have been entrusted with the *eternal Truth* that the *world* needs to hear. We begin to *make a difference* when we begin to *live that Truth* in our *own* life—asking God to enable our light to shine on someone that day who needs to *see* that Truth in real time. *Live the Word; Make a Difference!*

When God says the same thing *twice* in the same *Book* it is important! Any double *warning* in text is *doubly important* in meaning.

Our life of faith in God should be a visible warning to the world. Ezekiel 3:19 “*If thou warn the*

wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.”

The warning is repeated Ezekiel 33:3 “*When he sees the sword coming upon the land, if he blows the trumpet and warns the people,*” 4 “*then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head.*” Our life of faith in God is to be a living example of trust in Him for others to copy.

Watchmen in Bible times would be stationed high up on the wall of the city to have a visual advantage, like a football commentator who views from a high box to see what the *offense* and *defense* are doing. We can see things *better* if we look at the world through the *lens* of God’s Word.

We should see things the way *God* wants us to see them. Colossians 3:2 “*Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*”

The Cross is *proof* that souls *matter* to God. If our life of *faith in God* is an eternal *warning* to others, it is proof that other *souls* matter to *us* as well.

The Holy Spirit who *empowered* believers in the first century *empowers* us today in the 21st century. Only by *His* power can we *make a difference* and live a life of faith in God.

Our walk each day is a living testimony of God’s Truth. Setting a right example by our life of *faith in God*, can **Make a Difference** in someone’s life *on earth*.

We can often feel alone in our stand for the Truth, but God promised Hebrews 13:5 “*I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*” If God was with Moses and Joshua, He will be with *us* as well. Joshua 1:5 “*There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with*

Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.”

Making a *difference* means waging a *war* with the forces of evil in the world. Hebrews 12:4 “*In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted so as to endanger your lives.*”

David *knew* whom he served, and he *knew* the protection God would give him when he faced Goliath. David was making a *difference* by challenging the *enemy* of God’s people.

1 Samuel 17:45 David said to Goliath: “*Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.*”

There are many interests and activities today that *defy* the *doctrine* of the Bible—things that *oppose* the Word of Truth. We should never be afraid when choosing to *do* what we *know* is the *right* thing to *do*! The battle is not *ours*, but it is the *Lord’s*!

David was not afraid to defy the enemy of God. 1 Samuel 17:46 “*This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.*

47 “*And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give you into our hands.*”

One person plus God is a *majority* anywhere in the world—He can do marvelous things through one person willing to *stand* for Truth.

The apostle reminds us of an important concept. 1 Corinthians 6:20 “*Ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.*” We glorify

God by *living the Word*; by our appearance; by the *clothing* we wear; by the *attitudes* we keep; and by how we *treat* people around us.

Elisha the prophet warned the King of Israel that Syria was advancing. The king came to capture Elisha, but God was showing the prophet what Syria’s intentions were before they *did* them.

The Syrian army surrounded the city. Rising early, Elisha’s servant saw and said 2 Kings 6:15 “*Alas, my master! how shall we do?*” 16 “*And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*”

That encouraging verse could be repeated many times as we battle the spiritual forces around us today.

Ephesians 6:12 “*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*”

Choosing to live by the Word can *make a difference* in someone’s life! The apostle says Jude 1:22 “*And of some have compassion, making a difference:*” 23 “*And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*”

No matter who or what comes against us, or how Satan is tempting us, we say: “*Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*”

It is the only way to **Make a Difference** in our world today!



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