

Our Power of Choice

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God's Word tells us of the deliverance and protection of the Blood, the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross and He has revealed to us by the aid of the Holy Spirit, that we are free people; that every cord, which bound us to sin and Satan, to sorrow and disease, or anything that would disturb or oppress us, has been cut forever. Calvary's Cross has given us a new life, placed us into a new country, our citizenship is in Heaven; it has given us God and all that He is, or can be, as our personal possession.

The greatest weapon a human being has against the power of darkness is our "Power of Choice". It is a weapon that Satan likes to keep us ignorant of. When we are ignorant of the knowledge of this weapon, or how to use it, it permits Satan to rob us of the Atonement.

This principle has been covered up and lost sight of in the Christian world and it has wrought great havoc, it has made things exactly opposite to what they should be, and this gives Satan a great advantage and control over those who profess to be Christians and prevents God from bestowing His blessings upon them.

We may not have understood this principle any too well—this power of choice that God has given us seems to be lost sight of; in fact, in so much of the Christian world it has been covered up altogether in their doctrines and has shut them up to a fate they have no control over. They say that some have been born with a cruel fate to be lost forever, and some of them born to be saved forever. That it is not a question of their power of choice, or anything of that kind; but it is simply a matter of thrusting the whole responsibility on God, that God ordained that certain people shall be lost, and certain people shall be saved; regardless of their power of choice.

The vast majority of professing Christians—of the denominational churches, have placed the blame for all

the trouble, sickness, and sorrow which comes into their homes, on God. The true fact of the case is that it is all founded on an absolute ignorance of God and laying aside this doctrine of the power of choice, which has permitted Satan to come in and rob people of their spiritual life and of their physical life.

People are blaming God for these things. They continually say: "It is a strange but kind Providence which has allowed this; it is very mysterious, and we cannot tell why or where; but God has done it and it must be right; sometime, somewhere, in the better land we shall understand."

That is the doctrine prevailing today. It is the ignorance of the doctrines of God's truth which is permitting such terrible things to happen; people to be cut down in the prime of life, this is a serious thing for time and more serious for eternity; and such people need every minute of their time to get ready to meet Jesus. We need to make use of every spare minute to help our loved ones and fellowman, to a long life here; we need every minute of this life to learn about these wonderful doctrines of truth and to recognize that false doctrine that robs us of righteousness, because it strikes at the very root of the Atonement, and it nullifies the Atonement. It is the greatest weapon that Satan has to nullify the Atonement of Jesus Christ.

When you look at the so-called Christian world, you could not find any evidence that through the Atonement, Jesus Christ bore their sins; by looking at their experiences you would not believe that the body of Jesus Christ was broken that their body might be whole and protected. As you look at the experience of these professing, nominal Christians you would not think that the chastisement of their peace was upon Him; you could not believe it because all the evidence is on the other side, that He did not bear one sin, one trouble, one sickness or pain.

So many people have wondered why God put the tree of knowledge of good and evil along with the tree of life, as there were other good trees in the Garden of Eden. It was to make the power of choice for man; which is the greatest gift, the most valuable gift a Creator could have given to a created being, as it makes them responsible for their own destiny here and hereafter; it places in our hands just the kind of a life we are going

to live, just what we are going to receive, just what prosperity we are going to have, just what spiritual, physical and financial blessing we are going to enjoy.

God gave Adam his choice of eating of all the trees in the Garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Genesis 2:16,17, "*And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*"

Had this not been the case, they would have had no power of choice, which God desired them to have. Adam had his power of choice, from the time he was created, and was then driven out of the Garden of Eden for his disobedience, for making a wrong choice. Later God called Abraham and began to teach and train him, and finally got the twelve tribes of Israel together and brought them into the land of Canaan, through Joshua; and called Heaven and earth to record against them—in other words, He again gave them the privilege of their power of choice.

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you"—That was a wonderful place for God to take. Sometimes in a trial they have great difficulty in selecting a jury, as many times the opposing counsel raises objections and opposition to certain persons being paneled.

But God called everybody, every individual, all the wicked people and all the good people, angels, and demons to be His jurors in Deuteronomy 30:19, "*I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing.*"

We are to choose, make use of our power of choice. The same principle is involved as choosing between the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden. Our lives depend on this power of choice, they are subject to this power of choice; it is in our hands whether we live a long, happy life or not, whether we have health and protection, or not; whether our children grow up to be successful; it is absolutely in our hands.

There never was a greater libel on God in teaching otherwise. We cannot place blame and responsibility on God; when we have the power of choice. That is absolutely true, and it is the same for all of us.

The righteousness of parents reaches unto their children. Psalm 103:17, *“But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children.”*

This principle is not an arbitrary rule, but a positive one, and must be accepted and obeyed if a blessing is desired. Exodus 20:5, *“Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.”*

We want to see this at every turn. You will remember that God pictures this Gospel as a cooked meal, for He said in Matthew 22:4, *“Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.”* He sent out his servants to invite the people to come to the meal, but they would not come, and they could not compel them to come against their will; they had the power of choice.

Recalling the words of Jesus Christ, when He wept over Jerusalem, Matthew 23:37-38, *“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”*

He could not compel them; He could not help them against their will; He had to leave them to their own power of choice, much as it grieved Him. As a result, the Jews are scattered and peeled; without a God, without a sacrifice, without any truth, perishing and going to the Pit as fast as they leave the world.

“Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.” When they could have enjoyed Psalm 91:1,10 and *“living in the secret place of the Most High and abiding under the shadow of the Almighty; where no evil would befall them, neither plague come nigh their dwelling”*. Their power of choice was involved. Matthew 23:38-39, *“Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.”*

By this He meant until they were ready to make another choice. When we are willing to make a proper choice, half our battles are won, because the Atonement

is involved. If there was no Atonement, our efforts would be hopeless.

The Blood of Jesus Christ has acquitted us from all sorrow, sin, disease, and trouble; and it has given us not only a divine, but a full one hundred per cent, legal right to never have any power of Satan about us; never have a pain or ache; never have a sorrow; never have a need not supplied; never have a prayer unanswered—all this is our legal right through the Blood of Jesus Christ.

There is only one way in which that Atonement right can be nullified; that is for us to voluntarily surrender it, voluntarily accept the sins, sorrow, diseases, and troubles that Satan has, that is the only way he can ever get in. He can never oppress us without our consent. That is our power of choice.

If one person will go God's way and make a choice to trust Him, He will do just what He did in the days of Noah—Noah made a right choice and thereby saved himself and his family and condemned the world. But all the people could have been saved through that flood, they could all have had Noah's protection; but they WOULD NOT.

The greatest weapon we have against Satan is “Our Power of Choice.” Calvary's Cross gives us a full, one hundred per cent, divine and legal right, a full exemption from sin; from every power and influence of Satan, from disease, and every ache and pain; also, from poverty and trouble. We have fallen heir to God's wealth of money and Satan has no right to block a dime from coming in without our consent. We may let our Heavenly inheritance lay in the bank if we so wish; or we may draw it out as we need it. People have the choice to allow their bank account here on earth to remain in the bank until they are ready to draw it out. It is just the same with our inheritance in Heaven's bank, we have the power of choice whether we will draw it out or allow it to remain there.

We are also exempt from any trouble in our life, or home. The moment anyone makes the least trouble in our home we have the right to have Satan rebuked and our Blood-bought right of peace restored. The second point is that Satan must get our consent before he can oppress us; and when we are oppressed, he must keep our consent to continue to oppress us.

Satan will also persist in attacking unless we claim our exemption and protection of the Blood. If we had someone in our home and had given them notice to vacate, they could not remain without our consent, and it is exactly the same with Satan. Everything in our lives turns on Calvary's Cross, and we are FREE, completely exempted, by a power of choice voluntarily.

Satan does not come up in front of us with his red suit on saying: “I am come to rob you of the benefits of the Atonement of Jesus Christ; I have come in order to disturb your home and make your life miserable.”

No; he doesn't work in that way at all. He knows your weak points, so he brings some pressure upon you, he starts up a foolish discussion in the home. Before you are aware of it you are either taking part in it, or worrying about it, hence, your peace is disturbed.

One glimpse of Calvary's Cross changes everything. It is “Our Power of Choice” when we get down on our knees and ask God, in Jesus' name, to rebuke Satan, because the Atonement gives us that right. We can refuse to bear any disturbance another moment, pleading the Blood and God would see to it that we receive that peace. It is the same with sorrow, with disease; in fact, with everything. This is a principle which will set us free from a thousand snares of the devil, it will lift our burdens, it will conquer our enemies and enable us to enjoy the benefits of the Atonement of Jesus Christ.

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