

The Choice is Ours!

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[James 4:2 have not; we ask not; John 10:10 thief steals; Jesus gives life; Genesis 2:16-17 any tree but one; Deuteronomy 30:19 everyone a witness of our choice; Psalm 103:17 God's mercy is forever; Matthew 23:37 Jesus gathers to protect; Psalm 91:1 secret place of God; James 4:7 Resist the Devil; 2 Timothy 1:7 no spirit of fear, but of power, love, sound judgment; Romans 8:17 joint-heirs with Christ]

The choice has *always* been ours but—we just didn't know it—until we were enlightened by the Holy Spirit. Now we *know* and now we can *make* wise choices—choices that are more important today than ever before—as we see *signs of the times* all around.

The choice is ours to be enlightened by God through prayer and faith in Christ; or to let it go and remain in spiritual darkness. AV James 4:2 “*Ye have not, because ye ask not.*” We are to ask God to *show* us our Atonement rights through faith in His Son.

Our best defense against spiritual darkness—and Satan wants to hide it—is that the Atonement Blood of Jesus promises victory over the devil.

That Blood sacrifice releases us *from* what the devil wants to keep *on* us—wrong attitudes; physical oppression; financial lack; strife at home; and desire for worldly things.

The cross changes our citizenship from *earth* to *Heaven* and gives access to the power of God so we can *choose* correctly.

Freedom from the *power of Satan* is by our choice to trust on the *power of God*—something that has been ignored by the world.

The choice is ours to allow Satan to deceive us by ignoring the issue of trust—or we can *choose* to apply the principle of trust on God who *wants* to bless us. God is *not* responsible for the problems, oppressions, and troubles the *devil* has caused.

Everyone makes a choice on *who* they believe—but this responsibility to choose is either not known or not accepted by the world.

There are some who *say* they believe Jesus and they *profess* to trust God, but their life choices do not support that claim.

The delusive teaching of Calvinism says that there is no choice on our part concerning salvation, but that it is all up to God—who allows some to be *lost* and others to be *saved*—regardless of their choices.

Most people blame their problems and troubles on God because they either do *not know* Him or they *do not exercise* their power of *choice* and *choose* differently.

Many think it puzzling that God allows bad things to happen. This wrong thinking has Satan robbing people spiritually, physically, and every *other* way.

They blame *God* when they should blame the *devil* and find the spiritual *cause*. WEY John 10:10 “*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy: I have come that they may have Life, and may have it in abundance.*”

An analogy: A delicious meal is prepared and set on the table for us. The choice is ours to partake of, or to refuse, the meal. If we choose *not* to eat, we deny ourselves a nutritious dinner.

The cook prepared the food—the choice is to *eat* it or *leave* it; to be *full* or *famished*; to be *nourished* or *malnourished*!

Many do not know why God would put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil beside the tree of life and living in the Garden Genesis 2. God *had* to do that so a *choice* would be given. The ability to choose is a valuable gift from our Creator—it makes *us* responsible for our destiny.

The choice is ours to live the way we want—who we put faith in; *how* we obtain things; and *what* blessings are received—spiritually, physically, financially, and in every other way.

Adam had the choice NKJV Genesis 2:16-17 “*Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*”

The trees *had* to be different so there would *be* a choice. If the trees were identical, there would be no choice. From *that* day to *this* day, we *still* have a choice.

God taught Abraham how to trust Him *in faith* for everything *in life*. God gathered the twelve tribes of Israel and He brought them to Canaan—the Promised Land. God said to Joshua NKJV Deuteronomy 30:19 “*I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you.*”

God allowed everyone—angels and demons; all the good and bad people, to be *jurors* for Him. God said, “*I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.*”

The choice is *still* ours and our destiny is *still* part of our choice—as it has always been—whether we enjoy God's blessings, His health, peace, and protection, or not. If we will choose to *live* by faith in Him and *keep* His commandments, we will be blessed.

NKJV Deuteronomy 30:16-18 “*God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve*

them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days.”

God is not responsible for the troubles and problems we have in life, because it was *our* choice to choose otherwise.

NKJV Psalm 103:17 *“The mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him.”* It is a *choice* and a *principle* that must be *accepted* and *followed* if God’s blessings are expected.

Jesus referred to that choice AV Matthew 23:37 *“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!”*

By making the *wrong* choice, the Jews were scattered all over the world; *without* God and *without* sacrifice; *without* His forgiveness and heading for the flames—if there is no repentance. Jesus had to say 38 *“Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”*

By choosing *wisely*, we can live AV Psalm 91:1 *“in the secret place of the most High”* and *“abiding under the shadow of the Almighty”* where 10 *“no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.”*

By choice we can be under the protection of the Almighty, or we can choose to live outside of His protective shield.

Since Israel made the *wrong* choice, and until they were ready to make a *right* choice, Jesus had to say AV Matthew 23:39 *“Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.”*

When we choose to *believe* and *trust* God in faith, our prayers can be *answered* because the Atonement Blood of Jesus enables the power of God to *give* the answer.

The Atonement *paid* for our healing, our peace, our protection, and all food supplies each day. All those blessings have been paid in full by the shed Blood of Christ—ready to be picked up by faith.

The only way that Atonement right can be *nullified*, is for us to *forfeit* that right by *accepting* the oppressions, difficulties, aches, pains, and troubles Satan wants to put on us.

He needs *our* consent—and we often *give* consent by agreeing to what he is *suggesting*, instead of believing what God has *promised*. WEY James 4:7 *“Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.”*

If there is no peace in our home; if our sleep is disturbed; if there are difficulties at work, or we are physically oppressed, we should pray—*Jesus bore my guilt and pain on the cross; the chastisement of my peace was upon Him.*

This situation is disturbing my peace and I have an Atonement right for my peace to be restored and the healing to be given. Amen!

It is our *choice* to pray—or to let the answer go by default—the choice is ours: Anxiety or peace; poverty or plenty; healing or sickness!

If we do not take advantage of God’s *power*, the devil will take advantage of his *opportunity* to oppress.

Satan wants us to be in pain, to feel weak, or to have problems, difficulties, and shortages. Accepting *fear* has us believing the *devil*—but *refusing* fear gives confidence to receive God’s promises.

AV 2 Timothy 1:7 *“God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”*

Satan wants us to see his *dark* side, but the choice is ours to see God’s *bright* side.

The choice is ours to accept peace or conflict; plenty or poverty; harmony or discord; wellness or

illness; victory or defeat—*“So humble yourselves before God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.”*

Noah made a right choice, saved his family, and condemned an unbelieving and faithless world. The people could *all* have been saved through the Flood, and could *all* have had Noah’s protection, but they *“would not!”* Matthew 23:37 AV.

Satan does not approach with horns and a red suit—saying: *I have come to rob you of your Atonement rights*—but he will *subtly suggest* that we *accept* his oppressions, pain, and weakness—he suggests we tolerate worries, troubles, and shortages.

The devil puts a chalk mark on our door, and he visits when he wants.

Claiming the Blood of Jesus when Satan comes to our door, frees us from the problems the devil tries to have us put up with.

The choice is ours to *claim* our Atonement rights by faith in Christ and to enjoy the blessings, benefits, peace, and plenty God *wants* us to have.

The Cross of Calvary gives us an *exemption* from the slightest pain to the severest attack; from lacking a dollar to a serious debt.

AV Romans 8:17 *“If children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ.”*

Our inexhaustible account is *in Heaven*, and we may draw it *out* as needed—it all comes down to *claiming* our *inheritance*—***The Choice is Ours!***



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