

“Unshakable – Part 10”

Pastor Al Brice | Sunday, August 18, 2019

God has created every human being in His image (**Genesis 1:26-28 NKJV**), and He has given us the greatest privilege that a human being could possess, the power and freedom to CHOOSE.

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 NLT: ¹⁵ “Now listen! Today I am giving you a choice between life and death, between prosperity and disaster. ¹⁶ For I command you this day to love the LORD your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways. If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.

¹⁷ “But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and if you are drawn away to serve and worship other gods, ¹⁸ then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy.

¹⁹ “Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! ²⁰ You can make this choice by loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the LORD, you will live long in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

#1. The key to life, blessing, and success and the key to death, curses, and failure.

We chose which key we want to use: the key of obedience, or the key of disobedience to God; the key of independence from God, or the key of dependence on God. Our choices are the keys. We make these choices every day.

a. 1 John 2:3-6 NLT: ³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. ⁴ If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. ⁵ But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. (As we obey Jesus and His commandments, our love for God and our knowledge of Him will grow toward completeness and maturity. We will live as Jesus did, in union with God, in obedience to His Word, showing love for others, and destroying the works of the devil.)

1 John 5:3-5 NLT: ³ Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. ⁵ And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

John 14:15 NLT... “If you love me, obey my commandments.”

John 14:23-24 NLT: ²³ Jesus replied, “All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. ²⁴ Anyone who doesn’t love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me.

John 12:49-50 NLT: ⁴⁹ I don’t speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it. ⁵⁰ And I know his commands lead to eternal life; so I say whatever the Father tells me to say.”

b. Our continual fellowship:

1 John 3:24 NLT: Those who obey God’s commandments remain in fellowship with him, and he with them. And we know he lives in us because the Spirit he gave us lives in us.

c. Prayers being answered:

1 John 3:22 Amplified Bible: and we receive from Him whatever we ask because we [carefully and consistently] keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight [habitually seeking to follow His plan for us].

#2. Example of this key principle. Genesis 2:8-9,15-17 NKJV

God gave Adam a choice: life and blessings, or death and cursing (corruption, anxiety, depression, hopelessness, emotional pain, loneliness, sickness, disease, failure, lack, poverty, hatred, murder, prejudice, racism, jealousy, envy, lust, immorality, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, greed, idolatry, adultery, drunkenness, alcoholism, drug addictions, pornography, stealing, lying, cheating, cursing, loss of identity, fear, tragedy, etc., etc...)

a. Tragic choice. Genesis 3:1-11 NKJV

b. Is that same choice offered to us today? 1 John 2:15-17 NKJV

*** Results of choosing to disobey or obey God.**

Romans 6:15-16 NLT: ¹⁵ Well then, since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! ¹⁶ Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living.

*** Who is behind the seductive temptations?**

1 John 5:19 NLT: We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.

c. How do we handle these temptations, testings, and trials in life, what is the key? (Luke 4:1-13 NKJV)

2 Peter 1:2-4 NKJV: ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

God has given us everything we need to live a victorious and prosperous life, but you and I make choices every day that will determine how we choose to live. Who and what will you choose today? Life and blessings, or death and curses?