

Only the right values will give you the future you want

Choosing Your Future – Part 1

Louis Du Piesanie 23/09/2018

Deut. 30:15-16 (CEV) “Today I AM GIVING YOU A CHOICE. You can choose life and success or death and disaster. I am commanding you to love the Lord your God, to live the way he has told you, and to obey his laws and teachings. You are about to cross the Jordan River and take the land that he is giving you. IF you obey him, you will live and become successful and powerful.”

Deut. 30:17-19 (TEV) “But if you disobey and refuse to listen, and are led away to worship other gods, you will be destroyed. You will not live long in that land across the Jordan that you are about to occupy. I am now giving you the choice between life and death, between God's blessing or curse, and I call heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. CHOOSE LIFE!”

MOSES' 4 LIFE-SHAPING CHOICES:

Hebrews 11:23-27 “By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, REFUSED to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He CHOSE to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He REGARDED disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he PERSEVERED because he saw him who is invisible.”

1. MOSES REFUSED TO BE DEFINED BY OTHERS

Hebrews 11:24 (NIV) “By faith, Moses, when he had grown up, REFUSED to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.”

Rom. 12:2 (PH) “Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God remould your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good . . .”

1 Thess. 2:4 (NLT) “Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examines the motives of our hearts.”

Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for your good, plans to prosper you and not harm you. They are plans to give you hope and a future.”

2. MOSES CHOSE SHORT-TERM PAIN FOR LONG-TERM GAIN.

Hebrews 11:25 “Moses CHOSE to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.”

2.1. God will use our troubles to help us grow.

Romans 5:3-4 (NCV) “We can have joy in our troubles, because we know that these troubles produce patience. And patience produces character, and character produces hope.”

2.2. God will reward us in heaven.

2 Cor. 4:17 (NLT) “These present troubles are quite small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last Forever!”

3. MOSES CHOSE WHAT GOD VALUES AND NOT WHAT CULTURE DOES.

Hebrews 11:26 “Moses regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.”

3.1. What the world values:

- Popularity, Prestige & Power.
- Pleasure “the pleasures of sin”.
- Possessions “the treasures of Egypt”.

3.2. What God values:

- God’s purpose is more important than popularity.
- People are more important than pleasure.
- Peace of mind is more valuable than possessions.

4. MOSES CHOSE TO LIVE BY FAITH, NOT FEAR.

Hebrews 11:27 (NIV) “By faith, Moses left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw Him who is invisible.”

Galatians 2:16 “No one can please God by simply obeying his Law. So we put our faith in Jesus Christ and God accepted us because of our faith.”

Sermon Discussion Guide

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OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.

1. Do you sometimes allow the opinions of others to define who you are?
2. Can you see how the problems you are facing at the moment, can help grow and prepare you for the future?
3. Do you think that your values are the same as God's values?
4. If you are being honest, do you make choices in faith or out of fear?