

"JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke: 'Choices'"

May 22, 2022

-A.M. SERMON NOTES -

"JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke: 'Choices'

Graduate Recognition Sunday"

(Luke 9:25; Mk. 8:37; Ecclesiastes)

INTRODUCTION

Our Bible studies throughout 2022 focus on JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke, from Luke's Gospel and his Book of Acts. Every Sunday we study and apply God's Word. As we recognize our graduates, consider Jesus' haunting questions about life Choices, What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? Learn from the Choices of a man in the Bible named Solomon, who chose:

I. Wisdom & learning (Ecclesiastes 1:12-13a, 16-18; 2:16)

II. Wine & liquor (2:3)

III. Women & lust (7:26-29)

IV. Wealth & luxury (6:1-2; 5:10-17)

V. Work & labor (1:3; 2:4-6, 17-23)

VI. Worship the Lord (12:13-14)

CONCLUSION

In a 2006 interview, the actor Jim Carrey said, I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that it's not the answer. Martin Luther wrote 500 years ago about the human heart, The more it has, the more it wants. If it

possessed the whole world, it would like to have two! And if it had two worlds, it would like to have ten! Chose Jesus to satisfy your soul!

-Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life -

1. Our 2022 Bible study focuses on JESUS Through the Eyes of Luke, from Luke's Gospel and from his Book of Acts. Our Verse-of-the-Week today is Ecclesiastes 12:13, Here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. Read today's Bible text, Luke 9:25. Why do you suppose Jesus would ask this question? How is His question in Mark 8:37 similar? How is your life a result of your Choices?

2. Jesus tells us that life will be a result of our Choices. Thankfully, if we have the

desire and the humility, we can learn from the mistakes of others so we don't have

to repeat those mistakes! Maybe the greatest example of poor Choices in the

Bible is King Solomon. The closest thing to his personal diary is our Bible book

of Ecclesiastes. Read these 12 chapters and highlight Solomon's statements that

you find especially meaningful. Choose three verses and write them below:

A.

B.

C.

3. Answer the following as TRUE or FALSE:

T F Solomon lived like a king but found no true satisfaction.

T F Solomon's life looks full and glamorous, but his heart was

empty.

T F Solomon gave up his search for meaning and satisfaction.

T F God measures success by our education and achievements.

T F Solomon found lasting satisfaction in his work.

T F Different people find “the good life” in different places.

T F If the human heart had the whole world, it would want two.

T F I find my satisfaction and contentment in Jesus.

4. Solomon pursued five dissatisfying Choices before He chose what brings true

meaning. Look back over Solomon’s mistaken Choices from our Bible study.

Are you currently stuck pursuing any of these mistaken Choices? Which ones?

5. Blaise Pascal wrote, At the center of every human being is a God-shaped void

which can only be filled by Jesus Christ. Why does his statement fit Solomon?

6. What inner hungers did you try to fill before you came to Christ?

7. Ken surfaced five Choices a man might make in exchange for his soul. What will

your life story tell about your Choices?

8. Imagine living today without faith, without knowing Jesus, without knowing how

to pray, and without a supportive church family. Now think about your neighbors,

your coworkers, your relatives, your classmates, your friends, and people in your

circle of acquaintance. Who needs your faith, your Jesus, your prayers, your

church family? Will you ask Jesus to make His appeal to them through you?

9. I will put today's Bible study into action now by: