

# CHOICES

## Part 1

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**"To live in the past is to never get to the future. To live in the future is to never enjoy the current. You may not enjoy your current but in current but in the current you can choose to enjoy Him. For it is His Joy, His Grace, that will empower to not just live in your current but to thrive (even if it's a bad season). The bad can become your good if you will trust Me says the Lord. The troubles you face now will be your strength tomorrow."**

**He is more than just our Father and The One True God, He is the one that came to be with you and still wants to be with you. His love never fades, fails, and His love for you today is just as strong today as it was yesterday, success or failure His love for you is everlasting.**

Romans 8:28

Genesis 5:20

2 Corinthians 12:9

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### **Pastor Joel Lamb Post;**

All of us need a new beginning in some area of our lives at different times. Being absolute desperate is a must before change will begin. That doesn't mean that the situation must get worse but that you must recognize ONLY God has your NEW beginning and you must be desperate for Him. He gives NEW beginnings. That can only happen in context of an encounter or experiencing Him. He is here

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**The old out (2016) the new in (2017) but with God you don't have to wait 365 days to start fresh, with Him every morning is a new opportunity to start fresh; to start new; to begin to walk away from the old ways and start living the new way!!**

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**Every day we have them;**

**No one can escape them;**

**The smart ones have them, and the, well not so smart have them.**

**The rich and the poor have them,**

**The famous and not famous,**

**The healthy and the sick have them.**

**The young and old**

- **Left, right, forward, backward,**
- **Small, medium or large.**
- **Breve or cafe,**

- Chicken or pizza.
- Prove my point or let them think they are right.
- Trust or not.
- Obey or disobey,

Every day, every moment all thru out the world there is one thing everyone has in common.

**2017 will have just as many as 2016 had.**

## **Choices**

**THE CHOICES WE MAKE WILL EITHER CAUSE US TO BURN MORE HIM OR LESS FOR HIM**

**Question;**

- **What choices will I make in 2017 that will cause me to burn for Him more?**

**Andy Stanley**

**In light of my past experiences, present situation and future hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing to do?**

## **CHOICES**

- **What this word means?**

**Main Entry: choose**

**Definition:** pick, select

### **Synonyms:**

- Call for
- Commit oneself
- Crave
- Decide on
- Desire
- Determine
- Fix on
- Make up one's mind
- Set aside
- Want

**POINT 1 – Make up your mind that in 2017 YOU WILL  
Let Him work not just on you but also thru you!**

- **You are His masterpiece**

If YOU, IF we are gonna “burn” for Him this year like no other year ,

- If 2017 will be different than 2016 then we must allow Him to chisel away the things that we think we need—He knows not only what is “bad” for us but also what is “best” for us.

He is the best of the best – no Picasso painting can touch what He has done and His word will continue to do in and thru you.

**Ephesians 2:10 (AMP)**

For we are God’s [own] **handiwork (His workmanship)**, recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].  
sparkling gems

- **Workmanship**
  - This comes from the Greek word **poiema**.
    - The word **poiema** carries the idea of something that is artfully created.
      - The Greek word for a poet, **poietes**, comes from this same word.
        - In reference to a poet, **this Greek word would denote one who has the extraordinary ability to write or create a literary masterpiece.**
- Because Paul uses the word poiema to explain what happened when you became a child of God,
  - It **emphatically means that on the day you got saved, God put forth His most powerful and creative effort to make you new.**
    - Once God was finished making you new, you became a masterpiece, skillfully and artfully created in Christ Jesus.
      - **SO UNDERSTAND THIS** - There’s nothing cheap about you at all! God’s creative, artistic, intelligent genius went into your making.

So again - **POINT 1 – Make up your mind that in 2017 YOU WILL**

## Let Him work not just on you but also thru you!

- ✦ Just as a natural artist knows what he/she is looking for and knows what it will take to get “it” so much more does the supernatural God doing a supernatural masterpiece

## POINT 2 – Commit yourself that in 2017 you will

- **Rely** upon His power, His grace, His anointing
  - Rely – **DEPEND ON WITH FULL TRUST OR CONFIDENCE!**

**The power of God is within you**  
**To more than you could ever dream or ask**

### Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think (dream), according to the power (the explosive, no power on earth can match this power on earth) that works in us,

### Ephesians 3:20 (AMP)

Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]—

Exceedingly –  
Ask –  
Think –  
Power –

(Dake Study Bible Notes) There are no limitations in getting things from God according to the promises (2Pet. 1:4).

### Matthew 7:7-11 (AMP)

7 Keep on asking and it will be given you; keep on seeking and you will find; keep on knocking [reverently] and [the door] will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who keeps on asking receives; and he who keeps on seeking finds; and to him who keeps on knocking, [the door] will be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, if his son asks him for a loaf of bread, will hand him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will hand him a serpent? 11 If you then, evil as you are, know how to give good and advantageous gifts to your children, how much more will your Father Who is in heaven [perfect as He is] give good and advantageous things to those who keep on asking Him!

- **Ask** - to make a request, to make something known –
  - **call for, to crave, to desire, to require**
- **Seek** – make demands, to strive after [make great efforts to achieve or obtain something], **To keep trying to obtain**
- **Knocks** – to strike
  - Corresponding Hebrew - *press* severely
    1. to beat, drive severely
    2. to knock
      - b. to beat violently

## **ASK**

### **Mark 10:46-52 (AMPC)**

<sup>46</sup> Then they came to Jericho. And as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, a son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup> And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, saying, Jesus, Son of David, have pity *and* mercy on me [<sup>a</sup>now]! <sup>48</sup> And many [<sup>b</sup>severely censured *and* reproved him, telling him to keep still, but he kept on shouting out all the more, You Son of David, have pity *and* mercy on me [now]! <sup>49</sup> And Jesus stopped and said, Call him. And they called the blind man, telling him, Take courage! Get up! He is calling you. <sup>50</sup> And throwing off his outer garment, he leaped up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> And Jesus said to him, What do you want Me to do for you? And the blind man said to Him, Master, let me receive my sight. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus said to him, Go your way; your faith [**MY COMMENTARY - AND CONFIDENT TRUST IN MY POWER, NOW IN OPERATION IN YOU**] has healed you. And at once he received his sight and accompanied Jesus on the road.

**MOST OF US (AND I HAVE TOO) JUST MISSED WHAT HAPPENED**

**WE “SEE” THE MIRACLE BUT WE MISSED WHAT HAPPENED  
BEFORE THE MIRACLE**

**LOOK AT WHAT JESUS SAYS TO THIS MAN**

**“What do you want me to do for you?”**

**What if Jesus was here right now, which of course He is, and asks you “What do you want me to do for you?”**

- Now
- Tomorrow
- 2017
- Next 5 years
- Next 10 years

**Do you have an answer? -WILL YOU ASK (ask = synonym for choose)**

- Are you willing to verbalize it?
- Are you willing to spell it out?
- Do you really know what you want?

**If not then you are blind, spiritually, like this man was physically.**

**Understand God is for us,** most of us “know” this BUT **do we really “KNOW” IT.**  
**Do we really believe it?**

**Why do most believers live year to year by their “toenails” like the pre-christian?**

- Because we are afraid to ask
- Because we are afraid to think
- Because we are afraid to dream
- Because we aren’t really sure if He “wants to”
  - This is why the church looks boring to so many
  - This is why the Christian life looks so boring

**We don’t know what we want and if we do we don’t ask**

Make a decision

**Make a choice**

- That this year I will not be afraid to ask
- This year I will not be afraid to think or dream
- This year I will tell God what I want
  - What I need
  - What I am dreaming about

**And then trust that He will do what I have asked or even better go above and beyond what I am asking.**

- But you have to ask Him
- You have to step out in faith and trust Him
- You have to spell it out and “go” after it
  
- We have to be willing to be persistent this year – being persistent will help us “burn” for Him like never before

**We have to be like the widow**

**Luke 18:1-8 (AMP)**

Now Jesus was telling the disciples a parable to make the point that at all times they ought to pray and not give up *and* lose heart, <sup>2</sup> saying, “In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and had no respect for man. <sup>3</sup> There was a [desperate] widow in that city and she kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice *and* legal protection from my adversary.’ <sup>4</sup> For a time he would not; but later he said to himself, ‘Even though I do not

fear God nor respect man, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow *continues* to bother me, I will give her justice *and* legal protection; otherwise by continually coming she [will be an intolerable annoyance and she] will wear me out.” <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says! <sup>7</sup> And will not [our just] God defend *and* avenge His elect [His chosen ones] who cry out to Him day and night? Will He delay [in providing justice] on their behalf? <sup>8</sup> I tell you that He will defend *and* avenge them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find [this kind of persistent] faith on the earth?”

**We must understand these TRUTHS;**

**There is no limit to God – other than the limit we put on Him**

There is nothing He can't do – other than what we don't ask or even dream of

- Let the power that resurrected Christ work in us and thru us
  - The same power that gave the lame man the power to walk is in you
  - The same power that stopped the blood from flowing in a women is in you
  - The same power that opened blind eyes is in you
  - The same power the raised up the dead is in you
  - The same power that knocked down the walls of Jericho is in you
  - The same power that caused the sea to split and dry so that millions could walk across is in you
  - **The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in you**