

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1326

July 5, 2020

Joshua 24:15, “*And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that [were] on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*”

Joshua was nearing the end of his life and he was encouraging the people to follow the LORD. Many had not, and he was telling the people they had to make a choice, and that choice was to be made that day.

The above verse though written to the Israelites of old certainly applies to us today. Look at the various phrases and words of the verse and how they apply to our serving the LORD.

1. **Seems Evil.** Joshua first asked if it seemed “evil” to serve the LORD. The Hebrew word for “evil” can be translated displeasing. We have to decide first if serving the LORD is something good for us or if it is a burden and displeasing. For many it is something displeasing or even a drudgery. If our feelings toward serving the LORD are this way, then we cannot even begin to serve Him. Our

hearts have to be turned toward the LORD and His service.

2. **Choose.** Joshua then said if it was evil to them to serve the LORD they had to choose. Everyday we make a choice in serving the LORD. We might not realize that we do, but when we purposely do things against the word of God or simply miss worship when we so desire, we have made a choice. That choice is not to serve the LORD. We have no choice but to make a choice.

3. **You.** The choice was directed to each one of them. We cannot decide for others. As much as we would like to obey the gospel for someone else, or be faithful for them, we cannot. The responsibility is upon each of us individually.

4. **This Day.** The choice has to be made today. This is something that cannot be put off. Each day we are choosing to follow the LORD or we are choosing not to do so. It might not seem like we are making a choice today, but we are. The choice is made each day by the things we decide to do or not do.

5. **Whom.** Our service will be directed toward either the LORD or not toward the LORD. If it’s not toward the LORD then there is only one other choice. We are serving the devil. We might not seem like we are serving the devil, but if we are not serving the LORD, then there is no other choice. We cannot serve both. Jesus said in Matthew 6:24, “*No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*” Mammon means treasures or riches, but it represents serving something or someone other than God.

6. **Ye will serve.** There is a statement of definite service. You cannot be neutral. You will either serve the LORD or serve sin. Even now, each one of us is actively pleasing the LORD or the devil. There is

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Jean Coffey, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Shirley Edwards, Clay Bozarth, Vicki McDaniel, and Louise Greer.** Remember **Archie & Judy Manning.**

—Next Sunday, July 12, we plan to return to all our scheduled services at the building. There will be no service live on YouTube this Wednesday. I'll be speaking at Horse Cave at 6:00 p.m. I hope some can attend. If not, I plan on broadcasting it live on our Church FaceBook group and posting to YouTube later.

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no in between. That is a very sobering thought. Who is pleased by our service— the LORD or the devil?

7. As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. Joshua even mentioned some false Gods of the people among whom they dwelled. He could not make a choice for them, but he said that he and his house would serve the LORD.

As I stated earlier, we cannot make a choice for others, so how could Joshua answer for his house? He still could not make the choice for them, but being the head of his house if he followed the LORD it's likely his family would as well.

Consider how many people will end up going the way we go. There may be children, extended family or friends who really look to us and will end up following the LORD because we do. It also goes the other way. If we are not following the LORD, we will lead others from the LORD. It's a very sobering thought to think that another's eternal salvation depends upon what we are doing. It's very likely your children will only be as faithful to the LORD as you are. They can still chose on their own, but you heavily influence their choice.

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Sunday, June 28, 2020		
Classes	--	--
Preaching	14	II Timothy 3:13-17
Contribution	\$721.87	
Evening	--	Nehemiah 11:1-36
Wednesday, July 1, 2020		
Classes	--	Isaiah 36:1-22

Bible Quiz

The people cast lots to bring one of ten to dwell where?

Last Week's Answer— Songs and everlasting joy (Isaiah 35:1)

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Joshua said "Choose you this day..." Before this day is over, choose to serve the LORD, leading yourself to eternal salvation as well as those about you.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)