



# Choosing Wisely

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- **Joshua 24:15** - The ultimate call to choose wisely (**19-22**)
- The Bible is full of examples of people making choices - some wisely and others foolish

In life we will be faced with choices on a daily basis. Let us look at the importance of choices and some examples

# Making Wise Choices

## Making wise decisions involves 3 things

- You have to KNOW what is right

**Psalm 119:104, Proverbs 4:5-8, 18:15**

- You must DESIRE to do what is right

**Ezra 7:10, Colossians 3:2, 1 Peter 2:2**

- Your desire needs to be strong enough you WILL choose what is right (best)

**Romans 8:35-39, Cf. Acts 21:13**

# Making Wise Choices

## Factors to consider in the choices we make

- Much of scripture is direct, but much of it also is about principles
- Will my choice draw me closer to God or further away from Him?

• Will this build me up spiritually?

**Cf. 1 Corinthians 10:23**

• Do I have doubts? **Romans 14:22-23**

# Making Wise Choices

## Factors to consider in the choices we make

- How will my choice affect others?

**Romans 13:10, Matthew 5:16**

**1 Corinthians 8:8-9, 13**

Will it bring glory to God?

**1 Corinthians 10:31**

- Would I be ashamed to choose this if Jesus OR godly brethren whom I respect were with me?

# Making Wise Choices

Our decisions have eternal consequences

**Matthew 16:24-28** - what profit is it...  
if he loses his own soul?

**Matthew 7:13-14** -  
which path will you choose?

# Decisions of the foolish

## Rehoboam - **1 Kings 12**

- Rehoboam was Solomon's son and inherited his throne.
- He chose the advice of his younger peers rather than the elders. He chose the "in crowd".
- How many today choose popularity or what others want over wisdom?

**James 4:4, Galatians 1:10**

# Decisions of the foolish

## Lot - Genesis 13

- When Abram gave him the choice - he made his choice based on material appearance - **13:10-12**
- His choice came at a high cost - **2 Peter 2:7-9, Genesis 19:16**
- How many today make decisions based on external appeal rather than considering the spiritual impact? **2 Peter 3:17, James 4:13-15**



# Decisions of the foolish

## Rich, young ruler - **Mark 10:17-22**

- He chose his possessions over serving God.
- Jesus then taught about how difficult it is for the wealthy to enter heaven -  
**10:23-27**
- How many today chose materialism over following the Lord? **1 Timothy 6:17**  
**Matthew 6:19-21**

# Decisions of the wise

## Ruth - **Ruth 1-4**

- Ruth is about her loyalty to Naomi, her mother-in-law. Ruth chose to remain with her after her husband died (**1:16-17**).
- Because of her loyalty, she marries Boaz and becomes an ancestor of David - **Matthew 1:5**
- Many today chose loyalty to the Lord and helping others, even when hardships arise. They maintain their commitment.
- Moses (**Hebrews 11:24-26**) & Paul (**Philippians 3:7**) made similar choices.

# Decisions of the wise

## Mary & Martha - **Luke 10:38-42**

- She chose to sit at the feet of Jesus and learn. Martha was distracted
- Both Mary and Martha were loyal to the Lord. Mary chose the BETTER option
- When faced with choices, do we choose the better one?
- ALSO, do our choices distract us from spiritual tasks - studying, praying, worshipping, serving, teaching, etc.?

# Decisions wise & foolish

## Solomon - **1 Kings 3, 11**

- Solomon inherited the throne of David. Early on he chose wisdom and was blessed in everything. Most of his life, he acted wisely.
- BUT he loved foreign women and they turned his heart away from God to idolatry. There was a severe cost.
- We can choose wisely today, and tomorrow choose foolishly. We must be consistent. Even worse is the one that “falters between two opinions”  
(**cf. 1 Kings 18:21**) **2 Peter 2:20-22**

# Concluding thought

The choices we make have consequences

- We must continue to make wise choices throughout our lives

**Revelation 2:10, 13:14;**  
**2 Timothy 4:6-8**

**Matthew 12:30**, *He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.*

**Deuteronomy 30:19 (11-20)**  
- *“choose life...”*

The background consists of several large, semi-transparent blue arrows pointing in various directions, creating a sense of movement and choice. The arrows are in shades of light blue and dark blue, set against a dark blue background.

**Is God pleased  
with your choices?**

The background of the image is a solid blue color with several large, semi-transparent arrows pointing in various directions. The arrows are in shades of blue, ranging from a light cyan to a darker, muted blue. They are scattered across the frame, creating a sense of movement and direction. The text "Let us pray!" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Let us pray!