

Deciding Our Destination!

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John 12:48 *He who rejects Me & does not receive My*
Isaiah 5:20 *Woe unto them that call evil good, and*
Revelation 2:14 *I have a few things against thee, you*
Matthew 5:39 *But I say unto you, That ye resist not*
Matthew 5:40 *If any man will sue thee at the law*
Matthew 5:41 *whoever shall compel thee to go a*
Luke 6:35 *Love ye your enemies, and do good*
Luke 18:13 *God be merciful to me a sinner*
1 Corinthians 3:11 *For no other foundation can any-*

1 Making Scriptural decisions and choices on every issue of life is more important today than ever—with the huge number and variety of distractions and temptations.

Every choice has consequences—and some are eternal ones. We need divine wisdom in making correct ones.

2 Jesus came to earth in lowliness, humility, and love—and not as a warrior King in power that most had expected. They wanted him to fight for Israel and free them from Roman tyranny.

There would be consequences for not understanding what the Scriptures said about the true Messiah sent to them.

3 Today, Jesus speaks to us from the Bible, so when we read His Words, we are as obligated to *accept* His teaching as they were obligated in His day. To reject His *Words* is to reject *Him*.

NKJV **John 12:48** "*He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the **word** that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.*"

4 Jesus tells us to *love* others and to *pray* for those who wrong us, but all too often we see the worst in others and condemn their actions. We must *repent* and *change* those ways and *attitudes* to avoid eternal consequences!

5 Instead of *repenting*, the Pharisees were *resenting* the One who came to save them. Jesus was telling them the truth, but they considered Him their enemy and plotted for His execution. A death sentence would await *them* if they did not repent.

6 Jesus was offering the Kingdom to Israel, but they stumbled over the Cornerstone.

As a result, their house would be left desolate and their land taken from them. Jesus would then turn to those who *believed Him* and who would produce *fruits of repentance*.

7 Daniel said that in the end times, the Stone which is cut without hands will strike and topple the kingdoms of the earth.

It will then break them to pieces, so they blow away like chaff from a threshing floor. The Stone would grow to become a Kingdom that would never end **Daniel 2:34**.

8 Anyone can be *part* of that Kingdom, but a decision must be made to *accept* the King; *listen* to His words; *put* them into practice; and *trust* in the Atonement sacrifice He made for them.

AV **Daniel 2:44** "*And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.*"

9 The Stone crushes everything that rejects God's Truth—everyone needs to cry out to Jesus for mercy and forgiveness. We all must humble ourselves as the publican did—or suffer *serious results!* AV **Luke 18:13** "*God be merciful to me a sinner.*"

10 Through thousands of years, millions of people have stumbled over God's Truth. Instead of seeking to be *part* of His kingdom, people have sought to build their *own*. Just like Balak, the King of Moab, the religious leaders put stumbling blocks of false religion before Israel.

11 That is a *warning* to reject any false teaching that would entice us to accept unscriptural attitudes or tolerate idols that would get between us and God.

The false idols of today would first be money, and including immorality, anger, rage, resentment, pride, greed, and many other wrong attitudes.

12 AV **Revelation 2:14** "*But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.*"

13 The Lord Jesus is the true Rock on which our religious faith is built. If the correct Cornerstone is not properly set in place, there will be a serious outcome.

NKJV 1 Corinthians 3:11 “*For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*”

14 With every issue, our *trust* is to remain on the shed Blood of Christ—that means our *faith* must always be on Jesus to *heal* us when oppressed; to *deliver* us if afflicted; to *provide* our needs; to bring *justice* when wronged—and trusting Him every day to give us a *loving* and *forgiving* heart.

15 The Bible takes a stand on every major issue—personal relationships; real estate ownership; insurance; alcohol; responding to wrongs; physical healing; employment matters; home issues; training children; Bible reading and many more.

16 The world has become very evil and wicked and there are many things accepted today as *normal* that God has always said are absolutely *not normal* but *wrong!* There are many *things* and *attitudes* and *lifestyles* that are evil and an abomination to Him.

17 Any position the *Bible* takes on a subject, the world will say that the *opposite* position is right.

AV Isaiah 5:20 “*Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness!*” That is the culture today.

18 The choice is the way of the *culture* or the way of the *Kingdom*—and *either* choice will have eternal consequences.

The world says to strike back and get even—
AV Matthew 5:39 “*But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.*” What Jesus said is connected to eternity.

19 AV Matthew 5:40 “*If any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. 42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.*”

20 The world will sue anyone for anything—get *even*; get revenge; or get some kind of *compensation*. Not many would take someone twice as far as they were asked to go; and very few are giving anything to those asking.

21 But Jesus says AV Luke 6:35 “*Love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest*” Leviticus 19:18 and Deuteronomy 23:3-6.

22 If an unbeliever has a neighbor who causes trouble, holds wild parties, or damages something loaned to them, they will take court action against them to be financially compensated—just the *opposite* of loving or forgiving a neighbor.

23 Not many love their enemy; very few are blessing those who are cursing them; not many are doing good for those who hate them; and fewer still are praying for a person who uses them.

Most people in the world are children of the devil who will eventually be in the lake of fire *with* him.

24 Knowing *that* compels us to *know* the *Bible* a little better, so we can take a stand *against* worldly and destructive ways, attitudes, and responses.

The many wrong and unscriptural ways of living can be read in the media; seen in politics; and even

heard in some churches—responses that would cause people to be *tripped up* spiritually.

25 The *foundation* of a godly life must always be the *Lord Jesus*—He *has* to be the *chief Cornerstone* of our life—crushing everything that is *unscriptural*; *wrong*; or *opposes* Bible teaching.

If we will follow Jesus, we will be a blessing and a right influence on others.

26 How we meet circumstances is of *eternal* importance. If we are insulted or offended; if we are treated in an offensive way; or if any of our children are treated unfairly, we must go to God for His help in responding scripturally!

If we do *not* meet it correctly—there will be consequences, and they *could* be eternal ones if no repentance is forthcoming.

27 What steps are we taking to remove *rocks of offense* and *wrong attitudes* that trip us up and can lie deep in our heart?

What are we doing about the wrong *responses* we made toward those who wronged us or our children? Have we apologized, repented, and recommitted our life to God? Was it the *way of the world*—or the *way of the King*?

28 Right and wrong responses—*both* have *eternal results*—it is *paramount* that we choose the right one—we are *Deciding our Destination!*

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