

Series: Stand Fast In the Lord

LET US CHOOSE

JOB 34:2-4

Text: Job 34:4

Job 34:4

⁴ Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good.

Introduction:

Quote:

The choices we make will determine our character, our influence, our commitment and relationship to Christ, and ultimately our destiny.

Every day we are confronted with many choices.

We often do not realize how vitally important these choice are and how they impact our lives.

Job say's "Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good."

In Genesis we get a glimpse of how choices affect us as we look at the lives of Eve and Adam, Lot, Abraham, and Esau.

We'll consider their choices, and may we see that the choices we make will determine our character, our influence, our commitment and relationship to Christ, and ultimately our destiny.

Note:

Sermon Content:

1. CHOICE DETERMINES THE DEPTH OF ONE'S CHARACTER

A. Eve's and Adam's Choice

Genesis 3:1-7

¹ Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? ² And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. ⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: ⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. ⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also

unto her husband with her; and he did eat. ⁷ And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

The Dictionary defines character as the stable and distinctive qualities built into an individual's life which determines his response regardless of circumstances.

Someone has said it is who you are, even when no one is watching.

Adam and Eve were given a choice which engraved man's character.

Romans 5:12

¹² Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Every choice you make helps define the kind of person you are choosing to be.

Paul calls on us to make the right choices in Romans 6:13, 16:

Romans 6:13

¹³ Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Romans 6:16

¹⁶ Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Not only does choices determine the depth of one's character but also:

2. CHOICE DETERMINES THE DEPTH OF ONE'S INFLUENCE

Note:

A. Lot's Choice

Genesis 13:9-11

⁹ Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left. ¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD,

like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

¹¹ Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

Genesis 19:14-15

¹⁴ And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law. ¹⁵ And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

Our choices determine our character, and our character impacts our influence on others.

Your influence on other is either positive or negative but never neutral.

Lot chose based on the material world and lived a carnal life.

He lived for the world and lost his ability to positively influence even his own family.

Note Matthew 5:13:

Matthew 5:13

13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

Poem:

My life shall touch a dozen lives before this day is done;

Leave countless marks for good or ill, ere sets the evening sun.

This is the wish I always wish, the prayer I always pray:

Lord, may my life help other lives it touches by the way.

Not only does choices determine the depth of one's character and the depth of one's influence but also:

3. CHOICES DETERMINES THE DEPTH OF ONE'S COMMITMENT

Note:

A. Abraham's Choice

Genesis 22:1-3

¹ And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. ² And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. ³ And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Genesis 22:10-12

¹⁰ And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. ¹² And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

Quote:

Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality.
It is the words that speak boldly of your intentions.

It is the actions which speak louder than words.

It is making the time when there is none.

It is coming through time after time, year after year.

Commitment is the stuff character is made of; the
power to change the face of things

Illustration:

A young man who was in love with a young lady wrote
her a letter.

He said that he would be willing to endure the cold of
an iceberg, or cross the heat of the desert, or climb the
highest mountain, or swim the ocean just to be by her
side.

He closed his letter by saying, "I will see you
Wednesday night if it does not rain."

How many claim to love the Lord, and demonstrate just
the opposite by the choices they make?

Our choices determine the depth of one's character and the depth of one's influence and the depth of one's commitment but lastly and most importantly:

4. OUR CHOICE DETERMINES ONE'S DESTINY

Note:

A. The Choice of Esau

Genesis 25:30-34

³⁰ And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. ³¹ And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. ³² And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? ³³ And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he swore unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

In choosing to sell his birthright, Esau chose to gratify his momentary physical desires at the cost of being ancestor of the promised Messiah, and heir of the promises in Him.

His decision cost him eternity.

Remember what we read in Mark 8:36-37:

Mark 8:36-37

³⁶ For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? ³⁷ Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Moses in his farewell address stated:

Deuteronomy 30:19

¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Everyone faces this choice – Christ or Condemnation.

Understand:

It is never too early to choose for Christ, but the time will come when it will be too late.

Close:

The choices we make will determine our character, our influence, our commitment and relationship to Christ, and ultimately our destiny.

Have we made the right choices today?

Job say's "Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good."