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Righteousness Overviewed

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Lisa Kennedy is married to her high school sweetheart, Trent, who serves as an instructor and the associate director for the Southwest School of Bible Studies in Austin, TX. They have four children: Ella, Troy, Luke, and Annie. She has a bachelor's degree in biochemistry and a master's degree in biology education. Currently, Lisa is a stay-at-home mom who works part-time for Macmillan Publishing. For the last fifteen years, Lisa has been involved in teaching ladies' classes, ladies' devotionals, and children's Bible classes. She has been blessed to do foreign mission work in St. Lucia, Jamaica, Paraguay, Mexico, and Malaysia as well as Singapore, where her family labored for three years in full-time missionary work.

It's A Matter of Character
Matthew 5:3-12

Marking the Text: Matthew 5:3-12

NKJV

- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.
- 4 Blessed are those who mourn,
For they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek, For they
shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness for
they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful, For
they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they shall be called sons of
God.

NASB (1995)

- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.
- 4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the gentle, for they
shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness, for
they shall be satisfied.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful, for
they shall receive mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of
God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

10 Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Observing the Text

Examining the Blessings

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

Ephesians 1:3

3 ...For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 ...For they shall be comforted.

5 ...For they shall inherit the earth.

6 ...For they shall be filled.

7 ...For they shall obtain mercy.

8 ...For they shall see God.

9 ...For they shall be called sons of God.

10 ...For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11-12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven,
for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Summing Up the Blessings

Examining the Characteristics

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:1-3

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit...

4 Blessed are those who mourn...

5 Blessed are the meek...

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...

7 Blessed are the merciful...

8 Blessed are the pure in heart...

9 Blessed are the peacemakers...

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...

11-12 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake...

Summing Up the Characteristics

Surveying the Character of God's Faithful

*But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly...
But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served
with me in the gospel.
Philippians 2:19-22*

Pursuing and Practicing Christ-like Character

Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:1

Denise has been married to Greg Surlles for 32 years. They live in Weatherford, Texas, where Greg is the pulpit preacher for the North Main church of Christ. They have four children. Gregory is married to Jamie, and they have Nora. Jessica is married to Scout Betz, and they have Stella and Ava. Hannah graduated from the Southwest School of Bible Studies 2- year program in July and will begin culinary school next month learning in the Pastry Arts and Baking program. Payton is a senior this year and is looking forward to finishing school so she can pursue the things she enjoys. Denise loves volunteering at summer church camps, teaching, speaking, doing crafts, cooking, playing games, and spending time with her family. She especially LOVES her newest role as NEESY!

The Sermon on the Mount: Righteousness Overviewed

It's a Matter of ... Influence

Matthew 5:13-16

I. The _____ of Influence is sometimes

_____ to _____.

A. Notice the personal _____.

B. Church/Kingdom = _____.

C. Our Identity is _____.

D. We are God's means for _____ His

_____.

II. Salt has to do with our _____.

A. Salt _____.

Matthew 5:13-16

B. Salt _____.

C. How does salt lose its saltiness?

III. Light has to do with our _____.

A. Origin of light

1. God is light.

2. _____ is the light of the world.

3. _____ and _____

4. _____, after being in God's presence –

Matthew 5:13-16

5. As disciples, we are to _____

God's/Jesus' light.

B. Light _____

C. Prosper _____

Summary and Conclusion



Be these!

Matthew 5:13-16



Lisa Hendrix is married to J.J. Hendrix, and they have 5 children. J.J. and Lisa work with the Northwest congregation in Fort Worth, TX where he is the Family Involvement Minister and she is the church secretary and bookkeeper. Lisa also does bookkeeping work for another congregation in their area, as well as for the Brown Trail School of Preaching. She currently “church building” schools her 3 school aged children as the two Littles ask for snacks all day long. All Day Long. Lisa enjoys overextending herself and sleeping during her spare time.

Respect for God and His Word

Lisa Hendrix

Matthew 5:17-48

1. Relationship of Christ with the Law (vs 17-18)

2. Responsibility of Everyone towards the Law (v 19)

3. Righteousness that Surpasses (v 20)

4. Reevaluating Commands from the Law (vs 21-48)
 - a. Murder/Anger (vs 21-26)
 - i. This is what you've heard:

 - ii. This is what you need to know:

 - b. Lust (vs 27-30)
 - i. This is what you've heard:

 - ii. This is what you need to know:

- c. Divorce (vs 31-32)
 - i. This is what you've heard:

 - ii. This is what you need to know:

- d. Oaths (vs 33-37)
 - i. This is what you've heard:

 - ii. This is what you need to know:

- e. Retaliation (vs 38-42)
 - i. This is what you've heard:

 - ii. This is what you need to know:

- f. Love Your Enemies (vs 43-48)
 - i. This is what you've heard:

 - ii. This is what you need to know:

- 5. Respecting God and His Word
 - a. By not Restricting It (Legalism):

 - b. By not Relaxing It (Liberalism):

6. Resolution: God's commandments are not to be taken lightly. They are not to be abused or changed or misused. They are not to be relaxed or restricted. A proper respect of God's Word, shows a proper respect for God.

Kathryn is married to Andy Baker who preaches for the Graeber Road Church of Christ in Rosenberg, TX. A native Texan, she is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in finance. Currently, she homeschools their three children, serves on the board of a local American Heritage Girl troop, is a contributing writer for the *Come Fill Your Cup* blog, and occasionally speaks at ladies' events. In her spare time, she enjoys food (both cooking and eating!), vegetable gardening, and taking their Boston Terrier for walks.

TLC Retreat 2022

Matthew 6:1-18

Sincerity**Greek words for sincere in the N.T. -**

G55	ἀγνῶς	hagnōs	sincerely
G97	ἄδολος	adolos	sincere
G1103	γνήσιος	gnēsios	own, sincerely, true
G1506	εἰλικρινής	eilikrinēs	sincere, pure

Bible Marking Key Words/Phrases

- **Expectation:** when you _____ (vs. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 16, 18)
- **Exhortation:** beware/take heed/do not be like them (vs. 1, 5, 8, 16)
- **Motivation:** to be seen/praised by (vs. 1, 2, 5, 16, 18)
- **Location:** in secret (vs. 4, 6, 18) 2x
- **Compensation:** reward (vs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 16, 18)

Matthew 6:1-18 (ESV)

¹“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

²“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.^[a]

¹⁰Your kingdom come,
your will be done,^[b]

on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread,

¹²and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the
kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]

¹⁴For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

¹⁶“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Antoinette (Toni) Cook recently moved to North Richland Hills, TX in the DFW metroplex. Her husband, Stuart, is an architect and holistic health coach, while Toni wrangles their three kids and tries to learn new homemaking skills. Their family dream is to someday have a small homestead in the Texas hill country. Toni completed the Christian Woman's Study program at the Southwest School of Bible Studies in 2006. She enjoys gardening, photography, and spoiling her five chickens with treats.

It's a Matter of...Priority

Matthew 6:19-34 English Standard Version

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,

20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,

23 but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

25 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,

29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

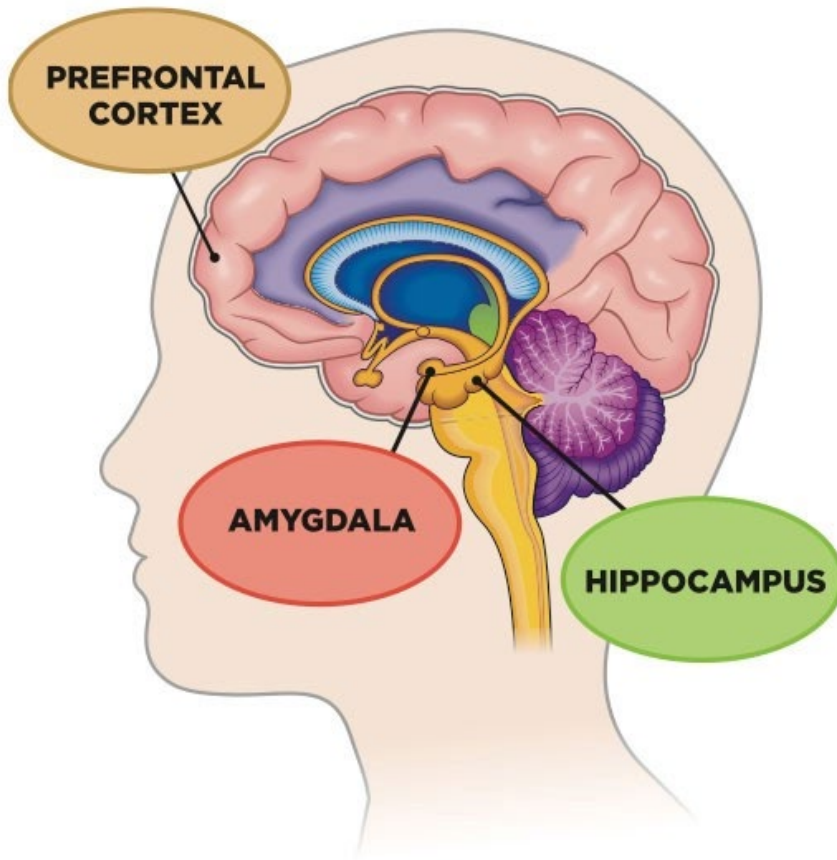
30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.



Notes: _____

Lori Hanson is 56 years old, married to Tod Hanson for 32 years. Tod is serving as an elder for the Windmill church of Christ in Weatherford, TX and self-employed as a Principal at Schwarz-Hanson Architects in Fort Worth since 1995. They have one 4 month old granddaughter, and two children, both members at BCS church of Christ. Their oldest, Kate is married to Jackson Rollo, and their son, Wesley Hanson, is a senior at Texas A&M. Lori is the 4th of five children (2 brothers & 2 sisters) of the late Holton George and her mother Reta lives in College Station. Her dad preached the gospel for over 62 years. Lori has taught various ages of bible classes since she was 18 years of age, including children's classes, ladies bible classes, and ladies days.

Lori graduated from Texas A&M University in 1988 with a BS in biochemistry and graduated from pharmacy school in 1990 from the University of Texas at Austin with a BS in Pharmacy. Lori is currently a pharmacist for Walmart Pharmacy where she has worked since January of 1991. She enjoys the outdoors, cooking, pets, Aggie football & baseball, and spending time with friends and family.

Righteousness in Judgment: Matthew 7:1-12

I. Introduction: (define terms)

Righteousness (defined): (of a person or conduct) morally right or justifiable, virtuous

Judgment (defined): The ability to make considered decisions or to come to sensible conclusions.

**Psalms 119: 172 My tongue shall speak of Thy word:
for all Thy commandments are righteousness.**

Judging others is based on what?

God's judgments are also called: precepts, law, statutes, testimonies, commandments, covenant, word of God, way of truth)

One of the "keys to Christianity" is ATTITUDE toward God's Judgments/Authority. (Sermon on mount begins with Be-Attitudes.)

- A. Judging Others
- B. The Use of Pearls
- C. The Golden Rule

II. Judging Others:

A. What does the text NOT mean? verses 1-5

1. **Am I not to make judgments about others?** John 7:24 discusses making righteous judgment. We may draw a wrong conclusion without proper examination. We are told not to judge according to appearance. Consider, does a judgment need to be made at all? Is there a "person" involved? Whose judgment are they seeking? From where are the "witnesses" getting information? We are called to be good fruit inspectors in order to know the root in the heart of man.

Look in the context of verse 1 to verse 16 & 20. "know them by their fruits"...that means, what they are doing! Jam 1:23 "be ye doers of the word". Luke 3:8 the fruit reveals the root in the heart.

2. **Does this mean God's judgment does not apply to me (or others).** John 12:48 reveals how we will be judged on the Day of Judgment. 2 Thes. 1:8 (ignorant of God's word)

Appendix 1 (BORN IGNORGANT)

B. What does this text mean? verses 1-5

1. **Do not judge others beyond God's judgment.** v.1 (We will be judged by God the way we judge others **in addition** to the New Testament.) Judgment seat of Christ 2 Cor 5:10; John 12:48

2. **Examine yourself against the word of God.** v 3 Do I first consider/examine myself? Jam. 1:25 (perfect law of liberty); Are my actions contrary to the scriptures? 2 Cor. 13:5; Am I sinning myself? Jam. 4:11; Am I in the place of judgment that doesn't belong to me? Gen. 50: 19; How often should I examine myself? 1 Cor. 11:28; How do I spend my time and energy? Php. 2:3-4 (Notice: clarity given to ones who do not judge hypocritically.) Gal 6:1-2; Also, notice what happens when we do this. Does this please God?)

III. The Use of pearls:

How are we to handle scripture? (verses 6-11) <Pearls —The word of God>

A. **Does my attitude matter?** "Take heed 'what' and 'how' you hear!-this is attitude! (Mark 4:24; Luke 8:18)

B. **Is it possible or mishandle God's word?** 2 Tim 2:15; song: this this the bible, God's written word.

C. **Is it possible to know who are the dogs and the swine?** (v 6) Who are they that "trample (the word of God) under their feet"...Who are they that "turn again and rend you"? (twist and tear God's children)... Is this scripture randomly placed in between verses 1-5 & 7-12? Are we to seek God's righteousness in judgment? What might hinder me or you?

(Oxygen illustration - the airplane - "FIRST, put on your oxygen mask in order to help the person next to you!"—the use of pearls-be sober, be vigilant-in God's word)

D. **What is "IT" in (v 7)?** Ask, Seek, Knock (v 14. few there be that find IT)
"-eth" in the KJV is continuing action.

1. Am I praying for this? Jam 4:2-3 points out our attitude

"Door of my heart I hasten..." (hymn)

a. My attitude toward: **"IT IS WRITTEN"**...the word of God, (OXYGEN illustration) provides sound mind and judgment.

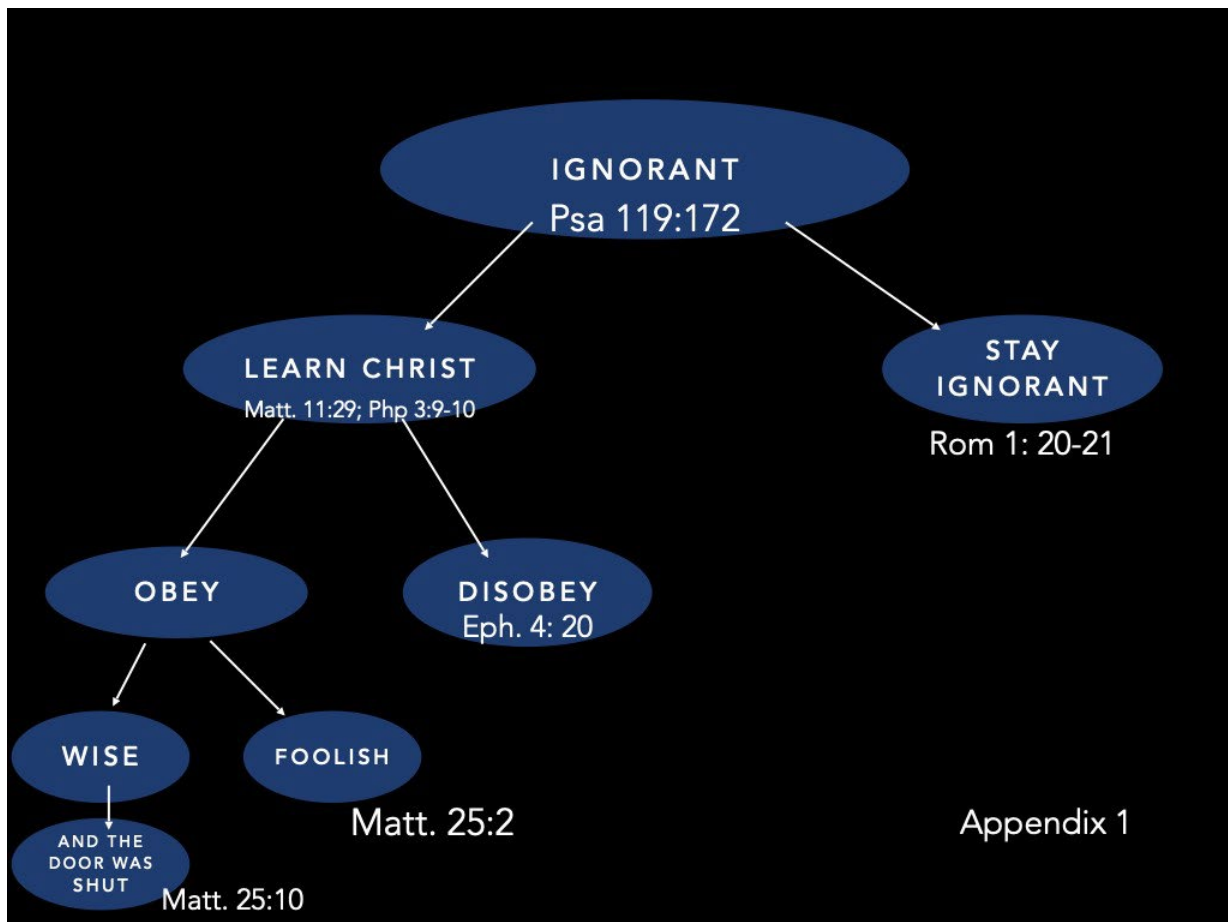
b. Be careful who you're listening to! If you don't know God's word, you are not caring for "pearls/that which is holy". It is a simple concept!

2. What is my faith and trust in? Mar. 11:22-24

E. (2 Pet 3:16-18) Be careful not to get something out of a text not intended. **"Some take a text out of context and make it a pretext."** Cry out (prayer involved) to God for knowledge and spiritual understanding. (Prov. 2:1-5); James 1:5; Col 1: 9-10

IV. The Golden Rule:

- A. **What does the “golden rule” mean?** (v 12) Does a good servant practice this?
- B. **Is this the judgment others (including brethren) want and/or need?**
- C. **Is this what Jesus practiced while on earth?** Matt. 23:11 Song: Make me a servant
 - 1. What is just? (It's never wrong to do the right thing; It's never right to do the wrong thing.)
 - 2. How do you want and expect others to show justice? (Am I just?)
 - 3. Does anyone like to be dealt with dishonestly?
 - 4. Do you like being lied to?
 - 5. Do you respect others?
- 5. Do you want to receive the wages you have agreed to receive? Or do you want to be cheated out of your pay?



Righteousness Overviewed.
It is A Matter of...
Choice

Matt. 7:13-29

TLC

Intro: Luke 16:19-31

1. Define Choice (chose, choose, chosen)
 - a. Hebrew - bahar Pronunciation: baw-khar
 - i. verb - a primitive root; properly, to try, i.e. (by implication) select: -acceptable, appoint, choose (choice), excellent, join, be rather, require.
 1. Used 172 times in the KJV
 - a. Job 9:14; 15:5; 29:25
 - b. Gen. 13:11; Ex. 17:9; Josh. 24:15
 - c. Ps. 84:11; 1Sam. 20:2; Ex. 14:7
 - b. Hebrew - mibhar Pronunciation: mib-khawr
 - i. masculine noun - from bahar; select, i.e. best: - choice(st), chosen.
 1. Used 12 times in the KJV
 - a. Gen 23:6; Ex. 15:4; Deu. 12:11
 - b. 2Kng. 19:23; Isa. 22:7; 37:24;
 - c. Jer. 22:7; 48:15; Exe. 23:7; 24:4-5...
 - c. Greek - eklegomai Pronunciation: el-leg'-om-ahee
 - i. verb - (in its primary sense); to select: - make choice, choose (out), chosen.
 1. Used 21 times in the KJV
 - a. Mk. 13:20; Lk. 6:13; 10:42; 14:7
 - b. Jhn. 6:70; 13:18; 15:16; 19
 - c. Acts 13:17; 15:7; 22; 25
 - d. Greek - exousia Pronunciation: ex-oo-see'-ah
 - i. feminine noun - (in the sense of ability); privilege, i.e. (subjectively) force, capacity, competency, freedom, or (objectively) mastery (concretely, magistrate, superhuman, potentate, token of control), delegated influence:
 - authority, jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength.
 1. Used 103 times in the KJV
 - a. Jhn. 10:18; Acts 5:4; Rom. 9:21
 - b. 1 Cor. 7:37; 9:4-6; 11:10
 - c. 1 Cor. 8:9; Rev. 17:13

2. God made choice - Acts 13:17; 15:7; Jam. 2:5
 - a. God choosing who He judged fit to received His favors and separated from the rest of mankind to be peculiarly His own and to attend continually by His gracious oversight
 - i. Israelites
 - b. God the Father chose Christians, as those whom He set apart from irreligious multitude as dear unto himself, and whom He has rendered, through faith in Christ, citizens in His Son's kingdom.
 - i. The church (called out) of Christ
 - c. Jesus, the Son of God chose His 12 apostles from among many. (Lk. 6:13; Jn.15:19)
 - i. One He chose was a devil Jn. 6:70
3. God gave choice - Gen. 2:16-17; Gen. 4:6-7
 - a. God gave Adam a command. Within that command the choice to obey and the consequences for not obeying were given.
 - i. "...She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate." Gen.3:6
 - b. God gave Cain a choice..."do well and be accepted...do not do well and sin lies at the door but you should rule over it."
 - i. "...Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him." Gen. 4:8
 - c. God gave choice through the Prophets. Moses Deu. 30:19; Joshua Jos. 24:15; Isaiah Isa. 55:7; & Jeremiah Jer. 3:12.
 - i. "...choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,..." Jos.24:15
4. God Judges choice - Jn. 5:22; 27; 2 Cor. 5:10
 - a. God judged the choices of each nation, tribe, and people of men.
 - i. "He shall judge among the nations,..." Ps. 110:6
 - b. God judged the choices of His chosen people (Israelites)
 - i. "For the Lord will judge His people..." Deu. 32:36
 - c. God will judge the choices of all men
 - i. "The Lord will Judge all flesh;..." Isa. 66:16

Conclusion - God is the Choice

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" Jn. 14:6.

Matthew 7:13-27

- Choose the narrow gate
- Choose the difficult way
- Choose the good tree bearing good fruit
- Choose to do the will of the Father in heaven
- Choose to build on the rock

Jesus while in the flesh provided an example to us of the great power “choice” can yield. Jesus used His power of choice to fulfil and do the will of the Father in heaven. Since it is a matter of choice, we should go and choose likewise.

Retreat Survey

Help us make the Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat even better next year!

Give us your thoughts...

Favorite Parts:

Least Favorite Parts:

Suggestions:
