

# Choices: Trust God's Word or World

- *In hope of eternal life which **God, who cannot lie, promised before time began**” Titus 1:2-3*
- After Adam and Eve sinned and set in motion all the evil we see today ... God showed His intent to keep that promise. Gen. 3:15
- *For **when God made a promise to Abraham**, because He could swear by no one greater, **He swore by Himself**, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." Thus God, **determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath**, 18 that by two **immutable things**, in which it is impossible for God to lie, **we might have strong consolation**, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. Heb 6:17-18*

# Strong Consolation

- God, **WHO CANNOT LIE**, *promised* before time began
- determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise **it's immutability confirmed it by an oath**
- by **TWO immutable things**, can never ever be broken
- 1<sup>st</sup> **The Promise** – You can't break a promise!!!
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **The Oath** – An oath is stronger than a promise!!!
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **It is IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD TO LIE**,
- Since 1 God Promised 2 God gave an oath and 3 God can't lie:
- *we might have strong consolation*,
- Do we feel that consolation (*para-kaleo*) He has called us right up to his side to exhort, comfort and console.
- That consolation based on three things:

# No One is Stronger than God

- *“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And **I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.** 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no **one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.**” Jn 10:27-30*
- *What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall **bring a charge against God's elect?** It is **God who justifies.** 34 **Who is he who condemns?** Rom 8:31-34*

# Nothing less than God can Separate

- Yet in all these things **we are more than conquerors** through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that **neither** death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able **to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Rom 8:37-39

# Nothing can Make God Change His Mind

- For when ***we were still without strength***, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But ***God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us***. Rom 5:6-11
- God has already seen the worst in man.
- By the time Christ died, He had seen the people before the flood. He had seen the complete corruption of the Gentiles after He gave them up. He watched Israel and Judah become so corrupt He cast them off.
- Nothing man had done or could ever do had not already been done before God so love the world that He gave His only begotten son.

# Nothing can Make God Change His Mind

- *Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Rom 5:6-10*
- God paid the highest price when we were at our worst!
- Much more then – We have been justified by His blood.
- How does He see us now?
- Saved from wrath ... reconciled ... keeping His covenant
- God committed Himself in eternity with a Promise, bound Himself with an Oath, and Paid the Price while we were at our very worst.
- Much More Now having done all that ... We are Saved!!

# God could have made the Conditions too hard to meet.

- *But now **the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed**, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even **the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ**, to all and **on all who believe**. For there is no difference; 23 for **all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**, 24 being **justified freely by His grace** through **the redemption that is in Christ Jesus**, 25 whom God set forth as **a propitiation by His blood, through faith**, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that **He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus**. Rom 3:21-27*

# The Conditions are Not Hard!!!

- *Hear the Gospel*
- *Believe*
- *Repent*
- *Confess*
- *Baptized*
- *You will be saved.*
- *What about after??*
- *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-10*



# We must Strive for the Conditions

- *giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. 10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to **make your call and election sure**, for **if you do these things you will never stumble**; 11 for so an **entrance will be supplied to you abundantly** into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:10-11*

# God Wants us To Feel Secure

- No one can snatch us from His hand.
- No one can be against, charge, or condemn.
- We are more than conquerors.
- Nothing can separate us.
- Our call and election is sure(fixed & stable).
- We will never stumble.
- Our entrance is abundantly supplied.
- We have only one fear and concern.
- The same freewill that bought our salvation can also remove it.

# Our Greatest Concern: Choices

- *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1Jn. 2:15f*
- The choice of how we use our lusts and pride.
- According to the World = Passing Away
- According to the will of God = Abide Forever

# Choices: World's Hatred or Friendship

- *"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Jn. 15:18-20*
- *Do you not know that **friendship with the world is enmity with God**? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Jas. 4:4-5*
- *The righteous should **choose his friends carefully**, For the **way of the wicked leads them astray**. Pr 12:26*

# Choices: Trust God's Word or World

- *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 **They are of the world.** Therefore **they speak as of the world,** and the world hears them. 6 **We are of God.** He who **knows God hears us;** he who is **not of God does not hear us.** By this we know the **spirit of truth** and the **spirit of error.** 1Jn. 4:4-6*

# Choices: Faith in God or the World

- *For whatever is **born of God** overcomes the world. And this is the **victory that has overcome the world** — **our faith**. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who **believes that Jesus is the Son of God**? 1 John 5:4-5*

# His Love /Mercy/Grace Never Ending

- *“For a mere moment I have forsaken you, But with great mercies I will gather you. With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you,”*  
*“For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. 10 For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,”*  
*Says the Lord, who has mercy on you. Isa 54:9-10*