

Title: It's Time to Make up Your Mind

Scripture: Joshua 24:13-15

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Joshua 24:13-15: *“And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat. 14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. 15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*”

Words to know:

Dependable: to rely on

Committed: You make a commitment to carry through with something.

Joshua told the people that they needed to make up their minds who they would serve. They had inherited the Promised Land.

1. A Dangerous Time: The people would forget how they got in their situation.
 - a. Danger worshipping the Canaanite Idols.
 - b. Danger they'd let their guard down and become indifferent.
 - c. Danger in the church. God would rather us choose Him over anything else.
2. Three Things we are in Danger Of:
 - a. Are we playing with the Bible? Are we reading the Bible to clear our conscience or to really meditate on his word?
 - b. Are we treating our prayer list like Christmas? Are we making out our “I want” list each time we pray?
 - c. Are we mocking God by putting more importance on a Sunday morning than a Sunday night or Wednesday night? Any service should be just as important as any other.
3. God Confronts Israel:
 - a. We are confronted by the Lord. Hear the Lord – show him reverence. Honor him. Love him. We are to put away other Gods. They are things that take our attention away from God. Serve the Lord with sincerity, complete with integrity. When we are held up to God's light, are found as a hypocrite? (See Matthew 23)
 - b. We are confronted by choice (See I Kings 18:21, *“And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.”*) In this verse it says that they didn't give him an answer. He commanded them to make a choice. God gives us the same choice. We can't serve Jesus with all of our distractions.
 - c. They are confronted by a challenge. In verse 15, Joshua said no matter what god you serve, I'm going to serve the Lord and I will raise my house up to put God first. We need to raise our upcoming generations to have the same mindset.